



COLONIAL REPORTS

Brunei  
1949



LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

PRICE 4s. 6d. NET

THE SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after suspension in 1940) is being continued with those relating to 1949. It is hoped that the territories for which 1949 Reports are being published will be as listed on cover page 3.



COLONIAL OFFICE

REPORT ON

BRUNEI

FOR THE YEAR

1949



LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1950

PRINTED IN SINGAPORE

*Crown Copyright Reserved*

The cover illustration shows a Brunei craftsman designing a silver ornament.



# CONTENTS

---

CHAPTER.	PAGE.
PART I.	
1.—GENERAL REVIEW OF 1949 .. .. .	1
PART II.	
1.—POPULATION .. .. .	3
2.—OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANIZATION .. .. .	5
3.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION .. .. .	7
4.—CURRENCY AND BANKING .. .. .	9
5.—COMMERCE .. .. .	10
6.—PRODUCTION .. .. .	10
7.—SOCIAL SERVICES .. .. .	29
8.—LEGISLATION .. .. .	41
9.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS .. .. .	42
10.—COMMUNICATIONS .. .. .	49
11.—PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS .. .. .	51
PART III.	
1.—GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE .. .. .	57
2.—HISTORY .. .. .	58
3.—ADMINISTRATION .. .. .	63
4.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES .. .. .	64
5.—NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICAL .. .. .	64

---

## APPENDICES

---

A.—TABLE OF IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1948 AND THE YEAR 1949 .. .. .	65
B.—TABLE OF EXPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1948 AND THE YEAR 1949 .. .. .	69
C.—ABSTRACT OF REVENUE .. .. .	70
D.—ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURE .. .. .	71
E.—STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES .. .. .	72
F.—BRUNEI—BRITISH RESIDENTS AND ASSISTANT RESIDENTS .. .. .	73



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2019 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b31408941>

## PART I.

### GENERAL REVIEW OF 1949

On the 22nd September His Highness the Sultan completed twenty five years upon the throne and was invested by His Excellency the High Commissioner with the Insignia of an Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire at a colourful ceremony which was attended by His Excellency the Commissioner-General for South East Asia and Representatives from other neighbouring countries. The celebrations of the Silver Jubilee in Brunei Town lasted over three days and similar celebrations were held a week later at Kuala Belait. A set of commemorative stamps was issued and a Jubilee Medal was struck which was awarded by His Highness to fifty leading personages in the State.

Unfortunately, His Highness did not enjoy good health during the year and was seriously ill in Kuching during the three weeks preceding his Jubilee.

It is recorded with deep regret that Pengiran Shahbandar Anak Hashim died in Brunei on the 5th April at the age of 85. He was formerly First Magistrate, Brunei, and had been for many years a member of the State Council.

His Excellency the High Commissioner visited Brunei on three occasions during the year.

In November the late Mr. Duncan Stewart, C.M.G. was appointed High Commissioner in succession to Sir Charles Arden Clarke but had no opportunity to visit the State before his tragic and untimely death at the hands of an assassin in Sarawak.

Admiral Sir Patrick Brind, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet, paid a visit in H.M.S. "Alert" to Kuala Belait and Seria in October. Visits were also paid by Rear-Admiral Caslon in H.M.S. "Alert" to Brunei Town in February and H.M.S. "Mendip" to Kuala Belait in August. Other visitors during the year included Air Marshal Sir Hugh Lloyd, Commander-in-Chief Air Command, Far East, and Mr. J. A. Thivy, Representative of the Government of India.

Further progress was made in the task of rehabilitation, although it has still not been possible to commence rebuilding the towns which were destroyed or badly damaged during the war. New Town Plans were, however, completed for Brunei Town, Kuala Belait and Seria, and it is hoped to put these into operation as soon as final surveys have been completed.

Expansion of the oilfield at Seria continues at a rapid pace, despite shortage of labour, and production had risen by the end of the year to over 70,000 barrels a day. The finances of the State benefited accordingly and the revenue reached a new record at \$8,736,153, or roughly \$200 per head of the population.



Despite strenuous efforts by the Public Works Department to complete its large programme, this proved impossible of achievement, and as a result the State's expenditure fell considerably short of the estimate, leaving a surplus on the year's working of \$4,507,560.

A considerable advance in Medical and Health Services was made. Four new travelling dispensaries—three by river and one by road—were brought into operation and have proved a great success, reaching outlying kampongs which previously received little or no medical attention. The benefit is very noticeable, especially among the children at rural schools. Work was commenced on the new hundred-bed hospital at Brunei Town in July, and completion is expected within eighteen months from that date.

A representative of U.N.I.C.E.F., Dr. Jean Orkney, visited Brunei in May and certain proposals were formulated which have now been approved and will come into operation in 1950 when two Health Sisters will arrive to assist in training local staff and to further medical work in the more inaccessible districts.

In August the long awaited State Education Officer arrived. Active steps are now being taken to provide education in English at the various schools, and scholarships have been awarded to Brunei boys for study in Singapore and the Federation of Malaya. In addition, a considerable number of students are going through the higher academic and teacher-training courses at Batu Lintang Training College in Kuching, while others have been sent to trade schools in Singapore.

The Brunei Government contributed \$100,000 to the University of Malaya Endowment Fund.

The foundations of a Social Welfare Service have been laid, thanks to the devoted efforts of the Ladies' Sewing Section of the Brunei Branch of the British Red Cross Society, who have taken a census of impoverished and destitute persons and distributed clothing over a large area in the western half of the State.

Crime has been negligible, although there was one murder early in the year. Nevertheless, it has been deemed expedient to augment the strength of the Police Force for security reasons, especially in view of the growing industrialisation of the Belait and Seria district.

There have been no labour troubles worthy of the name during the past year.

A Fisheries Department came into being with the primary object of research into the resources of neighbouring waters. Activities have so far been confined to the Kuala Belait area only and the results up to date have proved disappointing. Operations in 1950 will be centred in Brunei Bay and, with the arrival of a Master Fisherman from England, it is hoped that more will be achieved. Government has purchased a motor fishing vessel but lack of a refrigeration plant has seriously discounted its value. It has yet to be proved that modern fishing methods under local conditions are any improvement on those which the indigenous fishermen have employed for centuries past.

The past season's rice crop was very satisfactory and it is estimated that Brunei now produces 75% of its total needs. The nature of the country and the texture of the soil make it doubtful whether mechanised cultivation is really practicable. The absence of a fully qualified officer as head of the Agricultural Department has hampered further expansion of agricultural activities, but it is note-worthy that more wet padi has been planted with a corresponding reduction in wasteful hill padi cultivation.

The area of reserved forest land has been increased but no commercial exploitation on any large scale has materialised, prospective operators having been discouraged by the inaccessibility of most of the good timber stands and consequent transport difficulties.

Communications with the outside world have been considerably improved. There is now once again as in prewar years, a regular weekly steamship service between Singapore and Labuan, and Malayan Airways run a twice-weekly service from Singapore to the Borneo territories, with stops at Kuching, Labuan, Jesselton and Sandakan. There are still no airfields in Brunei itself.

National Registration was introduced in September and by the end of the year registration in the western half of the State had been practically completed. This should prove a useful check on illegal immigration.

---

## PART II.

### CHAPTER I.

#### POPULATION

*Race.* The principal indigenous races of the State are Brunei Malays, Kedayans, Tutongs, Dusuns, Belaits, Muruts and Dayaks.

The Brunei Malays and Kedayans are found principally in the Brunei, Muara and Temburong districts and to a lesser degree in the Tutong district. The Tutongs live along the lower reaches of the Tutong River and the Dusuns inhabit the hinterland between the upper borders of the Tutong and Belait Rivers; these two races probably have a common ancestry. The Belaits are confined to the lower reaches of the Belait River. The Muruts were formerly numerous in the Temburong district, but largely owing to the smallpox and cholera epidemics in the latter part of the last century, and to their degenerate way of living at that time, their numbers have been greatly reduced and there are now only scattered communities in the Temburong district. The Dayaks are found in scattered settlements along the upper reaches of the Temburong, Pandaruan and Belait Rivers.

The Brunei Malays live near the sea and are principally fishermen; the other races practise agriculture of one sort or another. Until quite recently, the Dusuns, Dayaks and Muruts



practised shifting cultivation only, but it is hoped they will adopt settled methods of cultivation.

Of the alien races, the Chinese are by the far the most numerous. They are immigrants from the South China provinces and are occupied principally as traders or shop-keepers. Other alien races, in much smaller numbers, are Indians, mostly Tamil and Malayalis who work as shop-keepers and as labourers in the Oilfields, and a few Arab traders.

*Religion.* The religion of the Brunei Malays and Kedayans is Islam of the Shafi'i sect. The Tutongs and Belaits also generally profess Islam. Of the other races, the Dusuns, Dayaks and Muruts are all pagan animists.

*Language.* The languages spoken in the State are as diverse as the races which compose its population. The Bruneis and Kedayans speak Malay, and in general, each race has its own language, though colloquial Malay serves as a lingua franca both for indigenous and alien peoples.

Of the foreign languages spoken in the State, Chinese is the most common, the principal dialects being Kheh, Hokkien and Cantonese. The Indian population speaks mostly Tamil and Malayalam.

*Total Population.* A census of the population of the State was made in November 1947 and the final corrected figure shows that at that time the population was 40,657. The density of the population was then 18.2 per square mile.

There has however been a considerable influx of labour into the State since 1947 and it is estimated that the total population at the end of 1949, allowing for natural increase and fresh immigrants, was something between 45,000 and 50,000 according to the preliminary figures disclosed by National Registration.

*Births.* The total number of births registered during the year was 2,073 representing a birth rate of 50.55 per mille. Of the births recorded 1,037 were male and 1,036 female giving an almost equal birth sex ratio.

*Deaths.* The number of deaths registered was 766 representing a crude death rate of 18.68 per mile. Registration of births and deaths is now fairly complete and these figures are reasonably accurate, but it must be remembered that the vast majority of deaths, although registered, are not certified.

*Infant Mortality.* The infant mortality rate for the year was 128.3 which represents a fall of 11 on the 1948 figures.

*Immigration.* There was a constant ebb and flow of population between the State and Singapore and the neighbouring territories of Sarawak and British North Borneo. It is however surprising to find from the official immigration figures given below that the number of departures exceeded that of arrivals by 123:—



<i>Nationality</i>		<i>Arrivals</i>	<i>Departures</i>
British	.. ..	500	451
American	.. ..	15	11
Yugoslavian	.. ..	1	—
French	.. ..	1	2
Italian	.. ..	1	—
Russian	.. ..	2	2
Dutch	.. ..	53	55
Eurasian	.. ..	57	71
Malay	.. ..	1,846	1,790
Chinese	.. ..	6,399	6,882
Filipino	.. ..	10	14
Arab	.. ..	38	63
Indian	.. ..	675	501
Javanese	.. ..	10	18
Dayaks	.. ..	1,267	1,144
Dusun	.. ..	127	117
Ceylonese	.. ..	—	4
		<hr/> 11,002	<hr/> 11,125

Aliens, which term connotes person other than subjects of His Highness the Sultan, British Subjects, and British Protected Persons, including Citizens of the Republic of Ireland, are required to register on arrival, and to notify moves from one district to another within the State, and to register departure. They may be, and in the case of the labouring classes generally are, required to furnish a guarantor for their repatriation expenses to the country from which they have arrived, should that become necessary.

Little restriction is placed on the free movement of indigenous persons, but all persons entering the State are required to produce a Passport or similar document.

## CHAPTER II.

### OCCUPATION WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION.

The State has wide variation in the type of occupation and employment offering. At the one extreme is the tilling of small holdings by the rural indigenous population engaged in self sufficient agricultural pursuits, varied by the gathering of jungle produce or the catching of fish; at the other is the oilfield of Seria where an enthusiastic management is trying to instill efficiency into peoples who have mostly been brought up to a very different tradition.

The field has been brought back into full and indeed greatly expanded production. During the past year this major undertaking employed several hundred Europeans and over 5,000 Asians, most of whom belong to one or other of the indigenous races of the country. The principal alien race is the Chinese while South Indians constitute many of the drilling gangs and do most of the stevedoring both at Kuala Belait and for the Company at Labuan.

The employes were divided into twelve grades. The rates of wages for all these grades were increased in January, the new

rates ranging from a base of \$1.50 a day to \$5.10. In addition to this a cost of living allowance of 20% of wages for single men and 50% for married men was paid and an increased regular attendance and good conduct bonus of \$5 a month plus two days basic pay.

The daily hours of work for day men were 7¾ hours and work was originally for six days of the week with the aim of a five and half day week, which was later achieved.

Housing continued to be the biggest problem but with the casting of the first situfoam quarters the eventual provision of full requirements became foreseeable though this may take some years.

Increased attention was given to schooling, club and sports amenities and social welfare provisions generally and a very promising trade school was started.

The labour turn-over continued to be very high. This is probably to some extent due to the mental make up of the local races who have not yet lost, as so many Europeans seem to have done, the ability to enjoy leisure. Money is still a secondary consideration to many of them and work for cash wages only to be engaged in when they require money for some particular purpose. When they have saved what they think they need, for buffalo or a wife or what may be, they are quite likely to pack up and go off to their kampongs without telling anyone and often without collecting wages they have worked for.

Relations between the management and the labour force continued to be good and there were no industrial disputes in the generally accepted sense. There was some trouble with the Sibu Dayaks as a result of which sixty-four Dayaks returned home. The matter was fully investigated and steps were taken to improve liaison so as to prevent misunderstandings. Arrangements were also made for the Dayaks to build their own long houses, at the Company's expense.

Next to the Oil Company the largest employer of labour is the Government, while there are four European owned rubber estates. The Government also revised all salary and wage scales early in the year and adopted an eight hour day with one day's rest, overtime at time and a half and double time on public holidays. A high cost of living allowance was also paid.

Work on the rubber estates is mostly carried out by local Kedayans who live in surrounding kampongs and travel to work either by prahu, bicycle or on foot. On one estate there are nine Chinese and sixteen Javanese settled. The percentage of women varies from 10% to 30% and a few children find employment as weeders or gatherers of scrap rubber. The principal work is tapping which is paid by result. Average earning approximate to rates paid by the Government and the work occupies about six hours a day only. Housing and medical attention is free and plots of land are provided for those who want them.

All workers enjoy freedom of action as regards work and association. Indentured labour is not allowed. Employment of women and children is controlled.



The Labour Code was revised and a Workmen's Compensation Enactment put on the stocks and both will shortly become law. The position of the State vis-a-vis the I.L.O. Conventions which have been ratified by H.M.G. will be unexceptionable when this has been done.

The following table shows the racial distribution of the labour employed according to the principal categories of employment:—

Race	Government (Public Works)	B.M.P.Co. (Oil Mining)	Rubber Estates & Cutch works	Total
Malays & Bruneis ..	595	1,955	495	3,045
Dayaks ..	—	889	21	910
Chinese ..	13	1,350	15	1,378
Indians ..	1	329	1	331
Javanese ..	2	76	30	108
Eurasians ..	—	15	—	15
	<hr/> 611 <hr/>	<hr/> 4,614 <hr/>	<hr/> 562 <hr/>	<hr/> 5,787 <hr/>

### CHAPTER III.

## PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

### Revenue

The principal sources of revenue are briefly described in the following paragraphs:—

*Customs.* Import duties are collected on a wide range of articles and preference is given to certain articles of British manufacture.

Export duties are collected on a limited number of articles the principal of which is rubber.

*Licences and Excise.* Fees are charged for the issue of licences for specific purposes, the most productive of which are licences for motor vehicles. Excise duty is charged on locally distilled spirit.

*Municipal.* Rates and taxes are levied for services provided within Sanitary Board areas. Charges are made for specific services such as conservancy and private water supply. All houses and buildings within these areas are subject to an annual assessment.

*Posts and Telegraphs.* Sale of postage stamps and telegram charges are the chief sources of revenue under this item.

*Land.* Premium is charged on the alienation of land. In the case of land alienated for agricultural purposes this varies from 50 cents to \$10 an acre, while in the case of land for building purposes in town areas it may be as much as \$1 per square foot. Alienated land is also subject to an annual quit rent, varying from 40 cents an acre for padi land to \$2.50 an acre for other agricultural land and \$5 per lot for building land in town areas. Land leased for oil mining is subject to a minimum rent fixed on a sliding scale over a period of years which is merged



in royalty on the amount of oil produced and natural gas sold when production eventually takes place.

*Forest.* Royalty at various rates is charged on forest produce removed from State and alienated land alike.

*Currency Profits.* Profits are derived from the all Malayan Currency Surplus Fund.

The total revenue of the State for the year 1949 was \$8,736,148 as compared with \$6,586,299 for 1948.

The following comparative table shows the actual receipts for 1948 and 1949 under the main heads:—

	1948	1949
Customs duties .. .. .	1,381,192	2,092,561
Licence and Excise .. .. .	96,926	129,874
Municipal .. .. .	33,903	40,136
General .. .. .	90,320	113,459
Land Revenue (includes oil royalties)	4,381,752	5,769,344
Interest .. .. .	118,582	224,985
Currency profits .. .. .	39,185	39,727

A detailed statement showing the actual revenue for 1949 under each main head with comparative figures for 1948 is shown in Appendix C.

Two items of revenue are outstanding in comparison with the previous year, Customs duties and Land revenue.

*Customs Duties.* Under this head collections exceeded those of 1948 by \$700,000. There was a general increase under all items in the Tariff but the largest increases were in collections on cigarettes, tobacco, vehicles and petroleum products. The last two items owe their increase mainly to the activities of the local oilfields where large quantities of tractor-type vehicles are required.

*Oil Royalties* (included in Land Revenue above). A sum of \$5,608,844 was collected under this head which sum exceeds the collection for 1948 by \$1,369,557. This increase is due to increased production at the Oilfields.

## EXPENDITURE

The expenditure for 1949 was \$4,228,489 as compared with \$3,740,254 for 1948. A detailed abstract of expenditure with comparative figures for 1948 is given in Appendix D.

The main factor contributing to this increased expenditure as compared with 1948 was ability of the Public Works Department to obtain labour and material in sufficient quantities to get into its stride.

## FINANCIAL POSITION

As stated above, the revenue for the year 1949 amounted to \$8,736,153 and the expenditure to \$4,228,489. The year's working therefore resulted in a surplus of \$4,507,664.

The following statement shows the revenue from oil and other sources over a period of years:—

	Oil Royalties	Other Sources	Total
1932	67,510	294,893	362,403
1933	235,756	345,000	580,750
1934	286,929	358,091	645,020
1935	383,112	430,420	813,532
1936	489,172	439,518	928,690
1937	482,567	566,726	1,049,293
1938	592,350	587,629	1,179,979
1939	710,099	563,645	1,274,644
1940	792,537	763,817	1,556,354
1941	548,711	777,201	1,325,912
Arrears	84,783		84,783
1946	58,550	630,812	774,145
1947	994,912	3,495,062	4,389,974
1948	4,239,287	2,347,012	6,586,299
1949	5,608,844	3,127,309	8,736,153

*Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund.* This fund was created in 1926 to take the place of the opium revenue when revenue from that source would no longer be available. The fund stood at the close of the year at \$291,571. This source of revenue ceased after the Liberation in 1945.

*Assets and Liabilities.* The surplus of assets over liabilities on 31st December 1949 amounted to \$5,097,813.77. A detailed statement of this account is given in Appendix E.

It was found possible and prudent to transfer a further sum of \$4,262,303 to the General Reserve Fund during the year from Surplus Balance.

A general depreciation of \$273,877 over all State Investments was disclosed at the end of the year.

*Public Debt.* The State has no Public Debt.

#### CHAPTER IV.

### CURRENCY AND BANKING

The State is a party to the Malayan Currency Agreement and Malayan currency is the only legal tender.

The standard coin is the Malayan silver dollar with a par of two shillings and four pence, at which value it is linked to sterling. Subsidiary silver coins are those of value 50 cents, 20 cents, 10 cents and 5 cents. There are also nickel five cent coins and copper coins of one cent. Currency notes are issued in different denominations from 5 cents upwards.

In the second half of the year it was decided that all silver coins bearing dates up to and including the year 1945 should be withdrawn from circulation. Arrangements were made to exchange them for their full value in cupro-nickel coin or currency notes.

Banks operating in Brunei State are as follows:—

- (i) Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation with branches at Brunei Town and Kuala Belait.
- (ii) Post Office Savings Bank with branches at Brunei and Kuala Belait.

The total number of depositors and the amount standing to their credit with the Post Office Savings Bank at the close of the year 1948 and 1949 were as follows:—



Year	Number of Depositors	Amount
1948	625	\$231,863
1949	675	161,147

## CHAPTER V. COMMERCE

The total value of Trade amounted to \$97,897,961 as compared with \$84,460,035 in 1948.

*Imports.* An attempt has been made this year to record statistics for Trade Returns in greater detail and the results are to be seen in Appendix A.

The overall volume of imports is very little more than in 1948. There are however variations in several items which are deserving of mention.

Cement, ironware and vehicles show considerable increases. This is accounted for by the extensive building programme under execution by both the local Oil Company and by the Government. It is in the nature of rehabilitation and also of new undertakings.

On the other hand there is a drop of some \$6,000,000 in the case of machinery. This was to be expected because the accumulation of major equipment required for the post-war activities at the Oilfields must at some time reach a workable limit and thereafter be regulated by circumstances and development.

Rice imports increased despite increased local production owing to the more generous allowance granted by I.E.F.C.

A small sea-plane was imported by the British Malayan Petroleum Company for business purposes.

*Exports.* There are two additional items this year in Appendix B.

A sharp decline in the quantity of rubber exported is disclosed. This is due to a considerable drop in price during the months of June, July and August.

The production and export of Crude Oil and Natural Gas have steadily increased since the war. The amount exported this year was 20% more than in 1948.

A considerable improvement is shown for firewood, the whole of which is exported to Hong Kong.

## CHAPTER VI. PRODUCTION

### (a) Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

#### Crop Reports

*Rubber.* Owing to the fact that a large proportion of the rubber in the State was originally planted on sloping land already



seriously depleted of its fertility by many years of shifting cultivation, the average quality of the crops is poor and the assessment is, in consequence, low. It might therefore reasonably be expected that, with the poor returns available from the crop under the conditions obtaining in 1949, there would be a tendency towards an improvement in the quality of the sheet produced. Investigations and enquiries made during the year show, however, that this was not the case, small-holders claiming that improvement in quality effected by them was not reflected in the price obtained from the rubber dealers.

The acreage under rubber in the State at the end of 1949 was estimated at large-holdings 4,153 acres, medium-holdings 5,955 and small-holdings 10,563 respectively. A total of 1,707.83 tons of smoked sheet were exported up to the end of the year. Keen interest in new planting was taken and approximately 594 acres were applied for during the year.

*Pests and Diseases.* Mouldy Rot (*Ceratostomella fimbriata*) was, as usual, reported from time to time throughout the year but no serious epidemic cases of this disease were noted. Propaganda regarding control of the disease was carried out by the Malay Agricultural Subordinates but the response was small. Damage to rubber by termites was common amongst the small-holdings but again it was not possible to effect much improvement. Root diseases (*Ganoderma pseudoferreum*) were also reported but no Odium Heveave was seen or reported. Damage by wild pigs was markedly reduced by the distribution of the proprietary poison which has proved very successful in the State.

*Padi.* Season 1948-49. The total crop was estimated at 2,699,857 gantangs padi, which in terms of rice—4,522 tons—is an improvement of some 468,024 gantangs of padi or 737 tons of rice over the previous season. The average yield was 370 gantangs per acre which is considered satisfactory.

The total area planted for 1948-49 season was 4,849 acres wet padi and 3,766 acres dry padi, a reduction of 476 acres for wet and dry as compared with season 1947-48. The reduction was chiefly due to some planters being attracted to the Oilfields by the high wages paid there.

The estimated planted acreage for the 1949/50 season was 5,062 acres wet padi and 2,888 acres dry padi. In Brunei district sowing was not so early as in previous season, but work in all districts went ahead smoothly, and prospects of crops are good except in Temburong district. In the Ulu of Belait district there was a slight increase in the cultivation of wet padi and a decrease in dry. Planting is more uniform than last season, and the irrigation ditches and drains which were cut by the Agricultural Department in Brunei, Tutong and Belait districts have proved beneficial to wet padi cultivators.

The existing methods of cultivation of wet padi in the State are well established by long practice and it is therefore difficult to introduce changes of a radical nature. The normal method of cultivation of wet land is by treading with buffaloes,

for which operation a large number of these animals are required, and the process is without doubt slow and laborious. Ploughing has long been introduced in the State but little interest has been taken by cultivators although it is common in the neighbouring territory of North Borneo, and has been successfully demonstrated on the Padi Experiment Station at Kilanas. The padi cultivator plants his seedlings, which are first raised in a dry nursery very close together with consequent shading effect to keep down weed growth. The result of this close planting is frequently a reduction in the number of tillers per plant and in the strength of the straw so that heavy rains or strong winds before and at harvest time cause severe lodging of the crop.

*Pests and Diseases.* There has been no serious damage from birds, stem-bores or kesisang (*Leptocorisa* spp.) apart from rat damage at Kampong Kasat. The organized rat destruction by poisoning with proprietary poison at Kilanas, Lumapas and Sengkurong has maintained a satisfactory control of this pest, but although a Rat Destruction Inspector has now been appointed on daily pay for Brunei district, the appointment is too early to have secured the intensive co-operative work necessary on the part of the cultivators to effect control. The total number of rats destroyed during the year was 13,123.

*Sago.* The area under this crop at the end of the year was 2,111 acres, an increase of 64 acres. This crop may be regarded as an important potential food reserve for the State and the improvement of the methods by which it is grown and manufactured are therefore the concern of the Agricultural Department. The Chinese-owned factory in Tutong for the manufacture of sago flour before the war was not in operation during the year. All matured palms are cut and worked by the peasants themselves, and the refuse sold to pig rearers.

The total sago flour (crude) exported during the year was 69 tons and the prices ranged from \$34 to \$50 per picul.

In order to encourage better planting methods, a site (2 acres) adjacement to the Agricultural Station, Birau, was selected for a Sago Demonstration Plot during the year. The 5 acres Demonstration Plot at Kuala Balai on the Belait River which has been established in 1939 has been practically neglected since the occupation period.

*Pests and Diseases.* No serious damage to this crop was reported.

*Coconuts.* At the end of the year the estimated acreage under sole crop was 491 acres, mixed crops 613 acres and new planting 11 acres. The area under coconuts is still very small and no copra is produced, but, in the establishment of new kampongs, efforts have been made to encourage the planting of this important permanent food crop.

Matured nuts are collected and consumed or manufactured into oil for domestic purposes. The price of nuts varied from 10—15 cents each.

*Pests and Diseases.* Coconut beetle (*oryctes rhinoceros*) and black bear did minor damage in some areas. Attacks by



beetle were noticed where breeding grounds were provided by the numerous unburnt dead leaves or palms. The beetles were found damaging young unshaded shoots of the palms. Squirrels, too, were troublesome and caused much loss of nuts.

*Fruits.* At the close of the year the estimated area under fruit was 1,381 acres including new planting and area applied for during the year. There are very few properly laid out fruit gardens in the State, and most of the fruit trees are found in clumps over which ancestral rights are claimed, though the trees may actually be on State land.

*Market Gardens.* Market gardening continued to hold the interest of the Chinese and some Kedayans at Kampong Subok, and there was an increase of 43 acres. At the end of the year it was estimated that the area under this form of Agriculture was 447 acres. With the exception of Belait district the State is self supporting in the matter of vegetables.

#### *Livestock.*

*Buffaloes.* Investigations made during the year showed that the number of buffaloes in the State has materially increased during the past few years.

The total number of buffaloes in the State in 1949 was 7,701. A small export of buffaloes for beef purposes is made from Brunei, Muara and Tutong districts to Kuala Belait. All local buffaloes sold for this purpose are males, the slaughter of females being prohibited unless the animals are found very old and unfit for further breeding.

*Cattle.* According to the animal census, there were 926 animals in the State, a decrease of 97 as compared with 1948; these are kept for breeding or sale for meat, in Brunei and Belait. Usually grazing is inadequate and as little stall feeding is carried out the animals are generally in very poor condition.

Exceptions to this have been seen in the Ulu Tutong river district, however, where the Tutong people appear to take rather more care of their animals and where extensive areas are available for grazing purposes.

*Pigs.* The State is self-supporting in pigs and the 1949 census figures showed an increase from 2,272 to 3,904.

*Poultry.* Fowls are kept in the usual native fashion by the natives in the State but supplies of eggs and poultry are scarce, particularly in and near Brunei and Belait. Small out-breaks of disease were reported amongst poultry during the year.

The State has been somewhat slow in the past in providing facilities for rearing and breeding pure-breed poultry, but during the year arrangements to import from Australia selected strains of Rhode Island Reds and Australorps have been made for rearing and distribution at the Agricultural Station, Kilanas.

*School Gardens.* The number of school gardens at the end of 1949 totalled 27, the distribution being as follows:—

Brunei .. .. .	10
Tutong .. .. .	8
Temburong .. .. .	4
Belait .. .. .	5

The standard of cultivation and maintenance continued to be satisfactory at those schools with a reputation to live up to, but slackness and a lack of interest were manifest at several schools.

One Malay Agricultural Subordinate has been appointed to take charge of all gardens in the State during the year, and it is too early yet to mention the progress.

#### *Agricultural Stations and Padi Test Stations*

*Agricultural Station, Kilanas.* (Area 12 acres approximately) This station is situated at 9½ miles Brunei-Tutong Road. Considerable progress was made during the year in the establishment of the permanent crops such as coconuts, fruits, cocoa, kapok and coffee, and growth was generally good.

The raising of fruit seedlings for budding with selected budwood was continued, and a considerable number of buddings and marcots of rambutan and pulasan were made. 388 fruit trees were distributed during the year.

Minor crops such as maize, sweet potatoes, tapioca, bananas and vegetables have all been cultivated with success. An area of approximately 2½ acres was prepared during the year for the establishing of a rubber budwood nursery, with a view to meeting the demands of the small-holders for budwood of approved varieties. At the close of the year 2,348 rubber seedlings were budded.

The rearing of local chickens and ducks was continued and eggs laid at the end of the year was 600. The health of the birds was satisfactory.

14 buffaloes and 3 cows were maintained during the year.

A model vegetable garden was maintained for purposes of demonstration to visitors.

There were 157 visitors to the Station during the year. This number included ratings from H.M.S. 'Alert', the High Commissioner for Brunei, the Director of Agriculture, Kuching, and Dr. Carl B. Gibson-Hill of Malaya.

*Padi Experiment Station, Kilanas.* (Approximately 18 acres) Season 1948-1949. No varietal trials laid except ear-to-row selection of Seraup 15, Siam 29, Radin Pasir, Langsat Puteh, Langsat Kuning, Serendah, Mayang Sagumpal and Siam 64. The very severe damage caused by rats, birds and kesisang (*Leptocorisa* spp.) before harvest rendered selection completely impossible.

Season 1949-1950. Varietal trials consisted of five 5-way Latin Squares to test the comparative suitability of Trengganu, Nalong, Lantek, Morak Spilai Kechil 22 and Mayang Sagumpal,



for Brunei conditions. Unfortunately rat damage occurred in each of the plots but was successfully controlled by poisoning. Seeds for these trials were sown in an area of heavy clay soil, and germination and subsequent growth in this nursery were exceptionally good.

By the end of the year, however, all the plots presented an even appearance and there has been slight rat damage except in one or two plots.

*Agricultural Station, Birau.* This station comprises 30 acres situated at 2½ milestone Kuala Abang road from the junction Brunei-Tutong road at approximately 18¾ milestone.

Development of the station is all but complete, the fruit area not having been fully planted up.

Apart from fruit, the chief crops grown at this Station comprise coffee, bananas, derris, cocoa, kapok, cinnamon, illipe-nuts and betel-leaf.

Mulching of fruit trees with grass cuttings caused marked improvement in the crops but it was found necessary to practise this regularly and in some cases to manure in addition.

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining suitable fruit budwood very little budding was carried out during the year, but a number of seedlings of several fruits were raised in nursery beds for budding purposes.

Growth of vegetable crops throughout the year was good, but heavy rains and strong winds in June caused a certain amount of damage to crops. Pest damage was negligible.

A demonstration was conducted at the Station in middle March and was attended by Penghulus and Ketuas, from Brunei and Tutong districts. A short lecture on poultry husbandry, padi, making of compost and other economic crops were also given.

*Padi Test Station, Lumapas.* (Area 5 acres). Season 1948-1949. Yields were, on the whole, considerably lower than in the previous season chiefly owing to pest damage and lack of water. No varietal trials or cultural experiments were laid out except multiplication of existing seeds. Sowing and transplanting was a bit earlier at this station than the surrounding sawahs and as a result very severe pest damage occurred.

*Season 1949-1950.* Trials of local and introduced varieties have been in progress for some years and, on the whole, the latter have come off better. Apart from multiplication plots, some newly introduced seeds namely Nalong, Morak Sepilai Kechil 22, Lantek and Trengganu were planted out 18" x 36" in each plot which made up of 500 single plants for preliminary observation and selection.

In general, growth and progress were very satisfactory throughout the season but rats did little damage in certain plots.

On the high land attached to the Padi Plot, the coffee and fruit areas were maintained and vegetable crops were also grown opposite the staff's quarters.

*Wet Padi Settlement Area, Mulaut.* Season 1948-1949. (Approximately 65 acres). In general the aim of the Government has been to encourage the peasants in this vicinity to take up wet padi land under permanent title instead of Temporary Occupation Licence. The cultivators in this area have been fortunate to be able to make use of the concrete dam, drains and irrigation ditches which were constructed by Government.

Shortly after transplanting rats did damage to the padi but this was lessened by hunts and searching of their burrows, while occasional heavy rains and winds caused a fair amount of lodging of crops. Harvesting was carried out under favourable conditions in February 1949.

Season 1949-50. (Approximately 55 acres). Transplanting of long term strains commenced in August and short term in October. Growth in all plots was good and the prospects at the close of the year of harvesting good crops were very promising. Rat damage occurred after transplanting was completed, but little damage was done.

At the end of the year 34 applications were received for wet padi cultivation approximating 69 acres, all of which adjoin this area.

Early in the year building of a permanent granary was started at this station and was completed in April.

#### *Rice Mills.*

The Government Rice Mill operating at Agricultural Station, Kilanas, purchased 11,276 gantangs of padi. The purchase price of padi was fixed at 55 cents per gantang.

At the close of the year the total padi milled was 32,295 gantangs, representing 12,786 gantangs Government's production, 11,276 gantangs purchased and 8,233 gantangs from local growers.

All the production except local peasant's rice was disposed of to the Government Supply Depot.

Considerable interest has been maintained in the mill. One private Chinese owned mill close to Brunei Town was also in operation during the year. The introduction of such mills denotes enterprise on the part of certain of the rural population, but it is a doubtful point whether encouragement is wise from a health point of view as the product is usually of a very highly polished nature. It is quite natural that these mills should prove popular as they relieve certain members of the household of a very irksome job, the operating of the "Lesong".

#### *Agricultural Shows.*

Shows were held in all districts except Belait at intervals during the month of June and Tutong district on August 18th.

The shows were organised on the usual lines, and exhibits were numerous and the standard was higher.

It was estimated that attendance at Brunei District Show was approximately 1,500 people.



*Weekly Fairs.*

Weekly Fairs were held regularly in different places and days in each district. All the Fairs were fairly well supported and attended.

Distribution was as follows:—

Brunei	..	..	..	19 Fairs
Muara	..	..	..	2 "
Tutong	..	..	..	2 "
Belait	..	..	..	Nil

*Administration.*

Mr. H. Ritchings, Malayan Agricultural Service, officiated as State Agricultural Officer until 8th February 1949 when he was relieved by Inche Hamidoon bin Awang Damit, Brunei Administrative Service, who acted for the remainder of the year.

The cadre of the subordinate staff was increased to 12 by new appointments of two Malay Agricultural Subordinates after the completion of their training at the College of Agriculture, Serdang, on June 28th.

*(b) Fisheries.**General.*

Dr. C. F. Hickling, Fisheries Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, visited Brunei in June 1946 and made proposals to start a Fisheries Department in Brunei, as a result of which Mr. E. Banks, Fisheries Officer for Sarawak, visited Brunei early in 1949 and it was decided to form a joint Fisheries Department for Brunei and Sarawak. An Admiralty 75 foot Motor Fishing Vessel of 89 tons gross register was purchased. This vessel was built at Sandhaven, Fraserborough, and is fitted with a 120 H.P. Blackstone engine, with accommodation for a Master-Fisherman and a crew of twelve.

An Elliot and Garwood Winch and Beccles Coiler are provided for Danish Seining.

On 1st April, 1949, Mr. E. H. Weigall was appointed Fishery Officer, Brunei. Owing to shortage of accommodation and lack of ice in Brunei it was not possible to commence operating immediately from there; it was therefore decided to start from Kuala Belait where some ice was obtainable and where accommodation was available for the Fishery Officer.

Kuala Belait river being typical of most rivers which enter the open sea possesses a bar which was too shallow for the M.F.V's. use and it was therefore decided to transfer the shallow draft fishing vessel from Sarawak together with its Master-Fisherman to Kuala Belait whilst the M.F.V. was receiving a thorough overhaul in Sarawak.

Fishing from Kuala Belait commenced on 7th June, 1949, and continued until early in November when the Master-Fisherman was recalled to Sarawak.

In November news was received that Mr. J. K. Corrigan had been engaged as Master-Fisherman for Brunei and he duly

arrived in Singapore towards the end of December and arrangements were made for him to proceed to Sarawak and bring the M.F.V. up to Brunei Town where the Fishery Department is now established.

*Fishing Activities.* The fishing carried out from the Kuala Belait base from June to September extended from Kuala Belait up the coast in a north easterly direction towards Tutong covering a coast line of approximately 35 miles with low straight sandy beaches and small estuaries at Kuala Belait and Tutong.

Fishing was confined almost entirely to using the Danish Seine with the following results:—

Catch (in pikuls)					
		No. of Hauls	No. 1 Quality	No. 2 & 3 Quality	Total Value
June	..	27	5.00	16.61	21.61 \$ 675.80
July	..	34	2.00	23.00	25.00 644.03
August	..	56	2.04	47.64	49.68 1,016.79
September	..	39	1.43	26.93	28.36 564.16
		156	10.47	114.18	124.65 \$2,900.78

During October Danish seining was stopped when the Master-Fisherman was transferred back to Sarawak and a start was made with cages of native design which could be more easily operated without continual European supervision. Some 16 cages were set in 25 fathoms of water but unfortunately on the following day heavy seas and storms set in and the weather continued bad for one week which resulted in the loss of 8 cages. The remaining 8 cages found showed good catches of from 15 to 25 katis of fish per cage. Fish caught by this method were all sizeable and Ikan Merah or Schrappier variety.

*Danish Seining.* As the above figures show June to September Danish Seining resulted in a very small percentage of No. 1 quality fish. The average weight of fish caught per haul was approximately 80 katis. This figure includes bad hauls when no fish were caught, due to various reasons such as broken tow ropes, broken winch belt and broken nets due to mud or wrecks. Depths fished were from 12 to 30 fathoms. The best hauls were invariably around the 15 fathom mark when a good haul would yield as much as 300 katis. Not one single haul in depths greater than 17 fathoms yielded a worth while catch, such hauls averaging 20-50 katis only. The marketable quality of all fish caught was low, being small in size and very mixed with a large proportion No. 3 quality fish such as Sting Rays, Bilis Kikit and Badukang. Approximately 12% of the total catch could be classed as No. 1 quality fish, and was never of any size, any one fish seldom exceeding one kati in weight. Species of No. 1 quality fish were Ikan Seblah (Flat Fish), Ikan Puteh and Ikan Merah with occasionally a few Ikan Duai. Due to the large proportion of No. 3 quality fish the price realised was low.



The all over average price realised was 23 cents per kati which yielded a total of \$3022.68 for the 4 months fishing.

In view of experience gained it is not proposed to continue Danish Seining except when bait is required for long lining.

*Future Survey.* It is intended in 1950 to investigate thoroughly other methods such as drift gill nets to catch Pelagic Species, and long lines and fish cages for bottom fish.

Fish cages appear a successful method and a very positive way of catching fish. The disadvantage is the loss of gear during bad weather, but it is thought that these losses can be materially reduced by improving the materials usually used by the natives for lifting lines and floats.

### (c) *Forestry.*

#### *Forest Policy.*

The forests, properly managed, are an asset of continually increasing value and the greatest importance is attached to their maintenance, not only as a source of revenue but on account of the many other benefits that accrue from the possession of them. To ensure realization of these benefits, the Forest Policy detailed below has been approved by Government.

- (1) Protect by reservation and develop forests where their retention is essential for the conservation of soil and water resources necessary for agriculture, and to ensure that every district is, as far as possible, permanently self-supporting in respect of timber and other forest produce.
- (2) Develop the forests to provide forest produce for domestic use, for agricultural and industrial development.
- (3) Manage the forests to obtain the best financial return and the re-investment of an adequate percentage of this return in works of development in so far as such management is consistent with the primary aims of reservation.
- (4) Recruit the forest field staff from the people of the State and train them in the proper management of the forests.
- (5) Educate the people of the State to a proper appreciation of the importance of forests in the economy of the country, with particular emphasis on the destructive consequences of shifting cultivation.

#### *Constitution of Forests.*

*Forest Reservation.* The area of reserved forests at the end of the year was 645 square miles or 29% of the total land area of the State.

One area was reserved during the year. This was a 65 acre stand of fine Tolong on a slight knoll in a swamp. This was reserved in the interests of ecology as this conifer is normally found only in hilly terrain above 1000 feet altitude.

The following areas were preliminarily gazetted as proposed Forest Reserves but had not been constituted by the end of the year:—

*Sungei Belalang* 77,000 acres. This is a remote and uninhabited area in the south of Temburong District—a part of “Unoccupied” reservation will link it to the existing Batu Apoi Forest Reserve and aims at protection only.

*Ulu Sungei Belait* 9,300 acres. This is an area of good Meranti forest which is an extension of the existing Labi Hills Forest Reserve and will fully protect the headwaters of the Sungei Belait.

*Berakas* 560 acres. This is a low sandy ridge of Sempilau by the coast in Brunei District. It is to be reserved for protection, for amenity and as a future firewood supply.

The proposed reservation of the following area was approved but it had not been preliminarily gazetted by the end of the year.

*Ladan Hills* 92,000 acres. This is a lengthy uninhabited area on the eastern border of Tutong District. The aim of its reservation is protection and future exploitation.

When constituted these new reserves will bring the area of reserved forests to 923 square miles or 41.5% of the total land area of the State.

*Forest Reserve Boundaries.* There are 72 miles of reserve boundaries which require active upkeep. This excludes some 222 miles of boundaries which are riparian or are State boundaries or which are remote and as yet not demarcated. During the year 21 miles of boundaries were cleaned. Wooden and metal reserve notice boards were erected at key points. Routine patrols along river and ridge boundaries were made by the field staff.

*Surveys.* Chain and compass surveys were carried out by the staff in demarcating boundaries of proposed forest reserves. The lack of accurate maps of some areas was acutely felt on such an occasion as the exploration of the Ladan Hills where the Government's knowledge of the State boundary is scanty.

### *Management of Forests.*

#### *Communication.*

(a) Rivers. The two most important rivers of the State—the Belait and the Tutong—were used for the rafting of logs down to the sawmills.

The Temburong river is too shallow save in spates to be so used. Softwood logs are the main logs brought down in this way—those of the hard species e.g. Merbau, only occasionally.

By cutting and tying the reeds which abound in the Sungei Mendaram it was possible for log rafts to be conveyed down this river to Kuala Belait.

(b) Light Railways. The light railway owned by the British Malayan Petroleum Company running from Seria to Badas on the Belait River continued to be used (on repayment) for the



extraction of logs and poles. The material was taken to the Hiap Hong sawmill which is sited by the line about 1½ miles from Seria. A short branch into the sawmill from the neighbouring Anduki Forests Reserve is used for the extraction of kapur paya. The Badas rail is gradually sinking in places in the swampy earth and the speed of its locomotives is much less than it was before the last war.

The Tutong Sawmill owner ran a light rail from Pengkalan Ran on the Tutong River for about one mile towards Andulau Forest Reserve. Early in the year however mounting costs and labour scarcity brought this work to a standstill after only a part of the fresh water swamp forest rendered accessible had been exploited. Efforts by the Department to urge a continuance of this work have so far failed.

The third light rail in the State is that from the British Malayan Petroleum Company sawmill in Andulau Forest Reserve for the exploitation of the Lumut basin. Its 400 yard length was due for lengthening by a further 400-600 yards by the end of the year but this has not been achieved owing to the cessation of the sawmill's activities.

Late in the year about 200 yards of light rails were laid by the Lumut Sawmill for extraction in fresh water swamp forest.

(c) *Roads.* No major forest roads were constructed in the course of the year. Such a road was proposed by the Forest Department from Simpang in the lee of the Labi Hills north to Bukit Puan by the Belait River 12 miles distant. This would render accessible the timber in the north west corner sector of Labi Hills Forest Reserve. Labour scarcity, an intervening stretch of swamp and the great expense necessary made the proposal impracticable however.

Minor corduroy forest roads were constructed in State Land near Sungei Lumut, in Anduki Forest Reserve and in the Lumut basin of the Andulau Forest Reserve.

There have been no further developments in the long proposed British Malayan Petroleum Company road to link Seria with Tutong which would greatly assist exploitation on this coast. These doubtless await the results of the further oil exploration.

(d) *General.* The extraction of timber to the main routes of communication is still done by water buffaloes or by manpower over wooden rollers. The use of winches was contemplated by at least one prospective timber contractor by the end of the year.

Second hand rails are still apparently unprocurable except by the Oil Company and there is still insufficient capital among the sawmiller contractors to purchase new rails.

*Protection of Forests.* The only serious forest offence during the year was one in Tutong District where a timber contractor felled and converted some large trees of penyiau (a valuable Class IA timber) without any authority. Other cases for breach of permits or offences against the Forest Law numbered 36. All were compounded.

*Shifting Cultivation.* This ancient and primitive form of agriculture continues to present a difficult problem. That it cannot be suppressed unreservedly is clear. That it can be controlled, guided and utilised by the Forest Department is the desirable though laborious aim. The worst offenders are the Ibans (or Sea Dayaks) who reside in long-houses in distant parts of the interior where their control by the Forest Department can be intermittent only. The hill forest gives way before these virile immigrants and springs up again in denser but more plebeian forms when they are past. To see blackened log stumps beneath creepers and fungi is to realise the energy and no less the inconstancy of man.

The sturdy opposition of the Forest Department to the immigration of all potential shifting cultivators is being maintained. Each long-house within a Forest Reserve possesses a permit listing the names of the male adults together with the number of their families. It is insisted that no new additions come from outside the State without the permission of the Forest Department. It is thus hoped to keep the long-house populations under regular control annually. A beginning was made to the plan of demarcating clearly the areas of belukar and of virgin forest which the Iban long-house may cut and burn. It was done on a basis of 5 acres per family per year and will be extended to all long-houses during 1950.

There are six Iban and two Murut settlements within the constituted Forest Reserves.

*Sylviculture.* Production of seed. There was no general fruiting of any timber species during the year. Only one species—Seringawan—was a rich seeder. Although the Dusuns, Muruts and Dayaks were aware that 2 cents a seed for Merbau and 25 cents a seed for Belian is paid by the Forest Department none was received.

*Sylvicultural Operations.* The only two sylvicultural systems operated at present are the Shelterwood Compartment and Selections Systems. The former was used throughout the year in the almost pure stand of Kapur paya in Anduki Forest Reserve. The demands by the Oil Company for timber and poles of this species rose still higher during the year. They were met only by straining the Shelterwood Compartment System to its limit. Light thinnings were made over two compartments covering 208 acres, seeding fellings over four compartments covering 434 acres and final fellings over two compartments covering 172 acres.

Natural regeneration is so prolific that no departmental removal of unwanted species or cleanings was considered necessary.

Early in the year there was a threat to this very interesting Reserve from a proposed British Malayan Petroleum Company airstrip. This was later abandoned and the Department was spared the clear fellings that would have been necessary. Ignorant of these dangers the natural kapur paya seedlings continue to burgeon and wax a thousandfold.



Selection fellings were attempted in a compartment of Andulau Forest Reserve but with only moderate success. The marking of trees for felling based on a minimum girth was done by an experienced subordinate of the field staff. Plans to apply the Selection System in this rich reserve more intensively had to be postponed when the sawmill closed down in August.

In the large but hilly Batu Apoi Forest Reserve fellings were marked on a minimum girth Selection System. Output continued to be tiny from this remote Reserve which has no sawmill.

Softwoods and a little harwood were extracted from permit and licence areas in and adjoining the Labi Hills Forest Reserve without any marking. The one permit area involved is too remote for easy periodic markings.

A working plan was begun for the pure mangrove of Selirong Forest Reserve. Thinnings were continued in it on a stick system basis which was applied by the cutters after they had absorbed patient tuition.

#### *Forest Utilisation.*

*Sawmills.* The State possesses eight sawmills and there is a small resawmill in the Oil Company at Seria. The Brunei town sawmill is a small one with poor machinery and supplies only a part of the needs of its vicinity.

The two sawmills in Kuala Belait are also small ones but have improved their machinery in the course of the year.

Their output and quality has improved although lack of qualified sawyers remains a big drawback.

The output of the sawmills at Badass Rail and at Tutong remained at a modest 4 tons and 2 tons per day respectively. The Oil Company owns a sawmill in the Lumut basin of the Andulau Forest Reserve. When the year began it was expected that this mill would produce up to 15 tons per day of mixed hardwoods and softwoods for use in the Oil Company's construction programme. An unflagging series of breakdowns, mishaps and delays ensued however. The modern equipment included a band saw, two breakdown inserted tooth saws, a swing docking sawbench and two resaw benches. It became obvious that the operation and maintenance of these was beyond the powers of the Chinese contractor brought in by the Oil Company. An Australian sawmiller from the Company attempted to re-organise the machinery but could not raise the output above 4 tons per day without further extensive alterations. The Department urged the Company to operate the mill with its own employees only but it could not see its way to do this. In August the Oil Company was informed by the contractor that he could not continue operating the mill at a heavy loss unless the rent was reduced. No agreement was reached and so the contract was terminated and the mill closed down. The cessation of the work in the State's best Reserve at a period when its best customer—the Oil Company—urgently needed hard durable and non-durable timber was the Forest Department's biggest

disappointment of the year. By the end of the year it became apparent that the Oil Company were not planning to resume operations in the mill before the middle of 1950.

The most recent additions are two light sawmills established early in the year—one in Anduki Forest Reserve and one in State Land near Kuala Lumut. The former produces some 5 tons daily and the latter some 12 tons. The output is almost entirely kapur paya and the majority of it is sold to the Oil Company.

*Timber and Poles.* The out-turn of timber was the highest ever produced by the State and (in round  $\frac{1}{4}$  girth plus sawn) amounted to 770,875 solid cubic feet. Of this about 40% was driven from Forest Reserves. The supply of poles was barely enough to meet the demand.

Out-turn of durable hardwoods improved slightly during the year i.e. 23,875 cubic feet as against 16,333 cubic feet in 1948 but the demand is still far beyond what can be met from within the State. The Oil Company favour belian shingles for their permanent buildings but these are all derived from Sarawak. Contractors have been urged to produce shingles from penyiau (available from within the State) to compete with the belian for which it is an excellent substitute.

Most of this timber is used at once unseasoned and it will be necessary to devise Forced Draught Kilns if the higher grades are to give the best service. The presence of surplus gas fuel in Seria Oilfield encourages the view that large scale timber seasoning in this State is a project rich with opportunity.

*Firewood and charcoal.* The abundant firewood available from inland forests is never used by the inhabitants if mangrove firewood is available. This demand was met by the State Land mangrove areas.

Ru is also well favoured as a firewood and charcoal timber but the Ru coastal belt was closely preserved as an anti-erosion and amenity asset and all fellings were prohibited except where specific permission had been obtained from the Department.

The proposed Forest Reserve of Sempilau at Berakas will form a useful reserve of firewood.

Exports of bakau firewood to Hong Kong were in progress throughout the year, the average per month being 1400 tons. A limiting factor has been shipping space to Hong Kong.

Firewood contractors have been continually urged to produce charcoal for export but they claim that shipping difficulties deter them. This is to be lamented as Hong Kong remains a very fine market for firewood and charcoal.

*Cutch.* The Cutch Factory in Brunei Town finally resumed production on 7.9.49 after a long and patient rehabilitation from its destruction in the war. This factory is owned by the Island Trading Company whose concession to take all mangrove bark in the State dates back to 1900.

In Selirong Mangrove Forest Reserve this Company has the right of first refusal of any bark which may be made available:



by felling operations. In the State Land mangroves the bark requirements for cutch manufacture are the prime consideration and the unused stems are utilised afterwards for firewood. Thus the wasteful practice before the war of most of this firewood being jettisoned is now avoided.

*Jelutong.* The Singapore price for this forest product remained at a low figure until the middle of the year. Thereafter it rose steadily until by the autumn it was fifty per cent higher than it had been in the spring (but still below the highest post-war price). The Brunei producers still found difficulty in organising their tappers as the Singapore buyers declared themselves unable to give anything more than monthly contracts despite the firm requests of the Department. Out-turn was less than in 1948 which was due to labour difficulties owing to the rival attraction of the Oil Company. Revenue from jelutong during the year amounted to \$12,338. The Singapore buyers—Malayan Guttas Ltd.—sell the jelutong to the United Kingdom, United States of America and Australia. This firm also received small consignments of Pulai latex from the State during the year for experimental purposes. It is less favoured than that of jelutong and it is improbable that any demand will arise for it.

*Other Minor Forest Produce.* The demands for the follow-minor forest products showed appreciable increases over those in 1948—bamboos, Nibong, Rotans, Attap Nipah, Gula Nipah, Bayong and Tikar Mangkuang. The demand for Kajang has waned as the Oil Company are slowly turning from temporary to permanent house construction. The rotan furniture shop in Kuala Belait has to obtain much of its rotan from Singapore and Sarawak as many of the local rotans are apparently unsuitable for furniture construction.

The out-turn for damar continues to decline despite an effort to encourage it. The demand for this product in Singapore is slender and is met from Malaya.

There was no crop of illipe (Engkabang) nuts during the year.

As far as is known no edible bird's nests caves exist within the State.

*Imports and Exports.* The requests from firms outside the State for concessions to cut timber for export was less during the year than in 1948. A surplus of general utility softwoods over the needs of the State became apparent and the Borneo Australian Timber Company was encouraged to increase its exports of meranti logs to Australia. During the year these amounted to 1200 tons.

At the end of the year this Company changed its name to the Baram Timber Company.

The largest firm to enquire about concessions was Messrs Steel Bros. formerly of Burma. A representative of this firm toured the three main Forest-Reserves viz. Labi Hills, Batu Apoi and Andulau in August. He announced that Andulau alone interested him by reason of its compact accessible hardwood

forest with an average yield of 8 tons per acre. It was pointed out that the needs of the Oil Company would have to be met before any exports could be considered. By the end of the year no proposal had been received from Steel Bros. in respect of this Reserve.

Legislation to control the export of forest produce was introduced in July by which the export of all timber and also nibong and rotan were prohibited except where a Certificate of Inspection had been obtained from the Department. This enabled the Department to prevent the export of timber required for use within the State and to ensure that timber exported was apparently free from fungal or insect attack and not prejudicial to the reputation of the State. The question of legislation for the control of the quality of imported forest produce will be brought under consideration early next year.

The imports of converted timber by the Oil Company during the year amounted to 3718 tons. There is an import duty of 5% ad valorem on timber imported from British territories and 20% on timber from outside the Commonwealth.

The Oil Company's imports show a marked increase on those in 1948 (which were 2593 tons) despite the expansion of the sawmilling industry in 1949. That is a clear cut index of the large construction programme that the Oil Company continues to push forward.

*Research.* The two sample plots in Anduki Forest Reserve were maintained during the year one of which received its annual measurement in November. No new sample plots are contemplated as yet.

Specimens of wood and leaves from various parts of the State were forwarded to the Forest Research Institute in Malaya for identification or for queries as to the mechanical properties of the former. Three base logs of Upun Batu were extracted from Andulau Forest Reserve and despatched to the Timber Research Laboratory in Malaya for detailed examination. This species was only classified in 1938 and its mechanical characteristics are still unknown.

It is hoped to send logs of similar timber—Penyiau—to Malaya in 1950.

At the Forest Nursery near Andulau a Forest Guard Quarters were completed in July. A guard was stationed there from August. His duties are to supervise the felling operations at Andulau Sawmill some three miles distant and to manage the Nursery.

This Nursery was expanded during the year and now contains 38 seed beds. About 20 one year old Merbau and 20 one year old Belian seedlings were planted out beside a small stream within the Experimental Plot.

The 1948 experiment of planting merbau seed in low lying belukar failed—probably because of the heavy summer rain of the irregular 1949 weather.



The following exotic ornamental tree seeds were obtained from the Botanic Gardens in Singapore and planted in the Nursery:— *Brassaia actinophylla*, *Cassia nodosa*, *Cassia fistula*, *Cassia multijuga* (cuttings), *Lagerstroemia flosreginae*, *Jacaranda filicifolia*, *Poinciana regia*, *Spathodea campanulata*, *Borassus flabellifer*, *Brownea ariza*, *Ravenala madagascariensis* (suckers). Although commended by the Director of the Botanic Gardens for the conditions of soil, aspect etc. in the Nursery only a few seeds had germinated by the end of the year.

The following exotic ornamental tree seedlings were obtained from the Conservator of Forests in Kuching and duly planted;— *Adenanthora pavonina*, *Poinciana*, *Regia*, *Hymenaea Courbaril*, *Cassia fistula*, *Cassia grandis*, *Pterocarpus indicus*, *Fagraea fragrans*, *Albizza falcata*, *Jacaranda filicifolia*. Of these only the first three have flourished as yet and a number of them were presented to the gardens of Government houses and to the Oil Company.

It is intended to continue the growing of these exotics and to utilise promising ones for avenues and gardens when the town planning within the State has been settled.

Balsa was planted early in the year but only a few seeds had germinated by the autumn as they were not freshly harvested. The seed was sent by the Conservator of Forests, North Borneo, who has promised to send fresh seed when available.

Balsa has definite possibilities and its timber would fetch a good price. It seems to be a good choice for planting on areas cleared for shifting cultivation.

During the year a set of vertical aerial photographs covering ninety per cent of the area of the State on a scale of 1 : 25000 were received from the Directorate of Colonial Survey. In addition a set of vertical photographs covering Seria Oilfield and Anduki Forest Reserve on a scale of 1: 12500 were received. The former were dated June—September 1947 and the latter September 1948. A close study was made of them and they were found most repaying in the discovery of unsuspected ladangs and in demarcation for reservation. A beginning was made in the annotation of selected photographs according to an agreed classification of littoral and inland forests. This was for the edification of both the Directorate of Colonial Survey and the Department. A forest inventory can now be prepared i.e. the total area in the State of mangrove forest, fresh water swamp forest, accessible lowland and hill evergreen forest etc. and the volume of mature trees per acre.

*Education.* One Forest Guard was sent to the Subordinates Forest School at Kepong, Malaya, for the 1949 Session where he obtained a pass.

In April and again in June simple examinations both written and practical were set for the Forest labourers with the object of selecting possible candidates for promotion to Forest Guard.

A training class for Forest Guards will be organised in Kuching in 1950 and it is hoped that junior members of the forest field

staff may be sent there. This would be desirable as it is not feasible to send more than one Guard per year to the 9 month course at Kepong in Malaya and there are still several junior Guards as yet without systematic training.

*Administration and General.* An officer seconded from the Malayan Forest Service—Mr. E. S. Erskine, Senior Assistant Conservator of Forests—was in charge of the Forest Department until his departure on leave on January 29th. The District Officer (Belait) acted as the Head of the Department until March 14th when Mr. J. Grant, Assistant Conservator of Forests, seconded from the Sarawak Forests Service assumed charge.

The subordinate field staff consisted of two Foresters, twelve Forest Guards and one Boatman. Five Forest Labourers were regularly employed by the end of the year. Two Forest Guards and two Forest Labourers were recruited during the year.

The clerical staff consisted of three clerks and a peon.

From September to December the State Forest Officer was Commissioner for National Registration in the State and was made responsible for operating the scheme in Belait District. All the Forest Department staff in the district were diverted to this work and forest operations were accordingly almost nil.

The Forest Research Institute in Malaya continued to advise on all research queries. The expenses of this Institute receive an annual contribution from the State of Brunei.

#### (d) *Mining.*

The British Malayan Petroleum Company Limited continued to expand their operations in the Seria area, where there are now 150 producing wells.

The total production of crude oil in 1949 was 24,694,500 barrels, equivalent to 3,302,879 tons.

The production of gas amounted to 580,018,000 cubic metres.

274 Europeans are employed on this field and over 5000 Asians.

The Company was also operating under two Oil Exploration Licences, outside the area of their Lease, covering a total area of 816 square miles.

Two applications for prospecting licences for coal were received during the year.

A new industry was started with the establishment of pottery works at the 6th mile Tutong Road. Bricks, drain-pipes, latex flower-pots and numerous articles for domestic use are being manufactured there.

#### (e) *Cottage Industries.*

Mrs. E. E. F. Pretty was in charge of the Brunei Arts and Crafts for the greater part of the year and has succeeded in reviving the weaving industry in the River Kampong, where they are now, as in pre-war days, making the beautiful gold-thread sarongs for which Brunei was once famous.



The silver-making industry has been greatly expanded and there are now selling agencies outside the State at Singapore and Kuching. Designs for many new articles have been introduced and were on exhibition at the Brunei and Limbang (Sarawak) Agricultural Shows.

There are also signs of a revival in brass-working industry, though the art of gong-making appears to be a lost one.

There was a considerable sale for the mats, hand bags and other articles made by the straw-workers, who are all women.

## CHAPTER VII. SOCIAL SERVICES.

### *Education.*

The number of institutions providing Education in Brunei during 1949 was 37. This number may be divided into four categories viz:

(a)	Malay Vernacular Schools	..	27
(b)	English Schools	.. ..	4
(c)	Chinese Schools	.. ..	5
(d)	Trade School	.. ..	1

*Malay Schools.* The 27 Malay Schools fall into two classes (i) Schools built by Government and (ii) Schools built by private enterprise, i.e. by Rubber Companies or by Kampong people. There are 23 schools in the first category, 4 in the second. The latter number includes 3 schools built by Rubber Companies viz. at Berakas, Labu and Biang; and one built by Kampong people on the Island of Baru Baru. All these schools, however, whether in (i) or (ii) are equipped and staffed by Government and for all practical purposes are Government Malay Schools.

During 1949 two new schools were opened, one at Biang and one at Baru Baru Island. Two old school buildings were replaced at Danau and Sinaut by new ones. The Brunei Town School was enlarged to take another 160 pupils.

The table below gives a complete list of Malay Vernacular Schools and also the comparative enrolments for the years 1948 and 1949.

No.	School	1948			1949			Increase or Decrease
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
Brunei, Muara and Temburong District								
1.	Town School, Brunei	514	71	585	538	85	623	38
2.	Kilanas ..	45	11	56	45	12	57	1
3.	Sengkurong ..	78	4	82	99	6	105	23
4.	Gadong ..	42	3	45	45	3	48	3
5.	Berakas Estate ..	33	7	40	46	8	54	14
6.	Sungei Hanching	44	1	45	46	3	49	4
7.	Muara ..	53	37	90	51	31	82	-8
8.	Lumapas ..	41	9	50	41	9	50	—
9.	Kasat ..	31	8	39	35	5	40	1
10.	Baru Baru ..	—	—	—	34	7	41	41
11.	Bangar ..	66	23	89	69	24	93	4
12.	Labu ..	19	3	22	22	4	26	4
14.	Biang Estate ..	—	—	—	14	11	25	25

No.	School		1948			1949			Increase or Decrease
			Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
<i>Belait District</i>									
14.	Kuala Belait	..	93	37	130	105	31	136	6
15.	Seria	..	123	47	170	146	49	195	25
16.	Kuala Balai	..	14	10	24	12	9	21	-3
17.	Labi	..	43	14	57	40	14	54	-3
<i>Tutong District</i>									
18.	Bukit Bendera	..	56	24	80	55	22	77	-3
19.	Penanjong	..	36	11	47	35	9	44	-3
20.	Keriam	..	25	9	34	19	13	32	-2
21.	Sinaut	..	41	10	51	55	13	68	17
22.	Kiudang	..	51	3	54	64	16	80	26
23.	Lamunin	..	65	8	73	69	6	75	2
24.	Tanjong Maya	..	66	2	68	73	12	85	17
25.	Ukong	..	33	9	42	33	7	40	-2
26.	Danau	..	24	11	35	32	10	42	7
27.	Tumpuan Telisai		17	4	21	20	5	25	4
Total:			1653	376	2029	1842	425	2267	238

It will be noted that the 1949 total shows a good increase over that of the previous year. The increase in the number of girls is encouraging. In respect of the total boys enrolled, the percentage of over-age boys perhaps calls for comment. They are, of course, boys whose education was interfered with by the war.

The percentage of children in the Malay Schools of school age is still very much under what it should be. The State Census for 1947 showed a total of 7778 "Malaysian" children between the ages of 5 and 14 in the State, 3908 of whom were boys. The corresponding figures for 1949 must be considerably in excess of the 1947 figures.

*Average Attendance.* The average attendance throughout the year was 89%. School attendance seems to be better in the rural than in the urban schools. Regular attendance is not as yet fully appreciated by many Brunei parents. A drive will be made by the schools during the year 1950 to improve the daily attendance of pupils.

*Equipment.* There was steady flow of equipment into the schools during the year, mainly in the way of school furniture and books. In respect of furniture the main gain was in connection with the seating of pupils. Not only was the seating accommodation increased but improved also, in that a number of unsuitable and antiquated benches and desks, which encouraged bad sitting postures, were replaced by modern types.

*Text Books.* The supply of text books, thanks to the Government of the Federation of Malaya, reached adequate dimensions this year and promises to remain so. Many of the old pre-war text-books and readers are beginning to make their reappearance in the schools. There is also a flow of new books, especially for higher standards. These are very acceptable as they should help to broaden the outlook of our older boys and girls. Among these new books are two which are most useful; one is "Nature Study in the Tropics" by a lady member of the Malayan Education Department, which is splendidly illustrated by diagrams; another "My Visit to Britain" by a prominent Peninsula Malay.



*Curriculum.* The Malay Schools teach the usual subjects, including Reading, Writing (in both the Arabic and Romanised scripts), Arithmetic (including mental Arithmetic), Composition, Geography, History, Hygiene, General Knowledge, Drawing, Nature Study, Singing, Physical Training, Gardening and Handicrafts. Great emphasis is placed on the three latter.

Gardening is carried on with some difficulty because in few places is the soil very fertile. Fertilisers are available and are used. It is hoped thereby to improve the soil of existing school gardens until the soil and well applied husbandry will produce abundant crops. In two schools padi was planted. The fields were planted and reaped during the year under review. The two schools were Sengkurong and Kilanas, both of which are in rice producing areas.

Gardening is a vital subject in the curriculum of Malay Schools. It is popular with the boys and it imparts a sound practical knowledge of how to plant, husband and produce crops. Any Malay schoolboy of eight is very much at home in a vegetable garden and handles the cares and needs of his crops with confidence and ease.

The development of handicrafts is hampered by the lack of tools and raw material. Boys in the carpentry class of the Brunei Town School built two perahus during the year. One is used by the staff at Kasat Malay School and is their only means of communicating with Headquarters.

Basketry is taught in all schools, besides having its place in the timetable boys are encouraged to work on their baskets at home.

Sewing is done by girls, and as Malay girls are naturally good needle women the subject is popular and productive of good results.

Physical Training and Games are very popular in the Malay Schools. The usual inter-school drill and games competitions were held during the year. Some of these were inter-school, engaging all types of schools, and others were inter-school on a sectional basis i.e. for the Malay Schools only. The State Drill and Games Competition was open to all Brunei Schools, but, other than Malay Schools, the only one which entered was the Tutong Chinese School. The Muara Malay School won the competition. It is very desirable that competitions on a non-sectional State basis should be more prevalent.

*Medical Attention for Rural Schools.* During the year under review the Government inaugurated and built up a very effective system of travelling dispensaries for use both on roads and rivers. These dispensaries with their trained Dressers bring a most valuable service to the schools, as indeed they bring also to the Kampong people. The number of visits was considerable, although outboard motor boats for river work, in some cases, were not ready until the turn of the year. In urban areas school children attend the local hospitals for treatment.

*Refresher Course for Teachers.* A valuable Refresher Course for Malay Teachers was held in Brunei Town from 4th to 8th

December. This was attended by all teachers in the State. The Teachers, probably because of the medical facilities now available to the outlying districts, showed great interest in the lectures given by the State Medical Officer. It is manifest that such interest will produce good results in the schools. There is obviously great keenness amongst teachers generally to obtain a useful practical knowledge of first aid and how to administer the more common medicines.

*Staff.* In August, the Administrative Staff of the Department was increased by the arrival of a professional Education Officer to take up the post of State Education Officer. The Officer appointed, Mr. J. Pearce, was formerly an officer in the Malayan Educational Service. During his service in Malaya Mr. Pearce held the appointments of Master of Method and Acting Principal, Sultan Idris Training College, and Superintendent of Education, Kelantan. The other Administrative Officers included an Acting Superintendent of Malay Education and Acting Inspector of Malay Schools, a visiting Teacher for Handicrafts and Physical Training, and three Group Teachers. At the end of the year the Teaching staff consisted of 25 Trained Teachers, an increase of 9 over the previous year and 67 Untrained Teachers and Probationers, a decrease of 1. There is an instructor in canoe building attached to the Brunei Town School.

Teachers in training during 1949 were:—

Sultan Idris College (Malaya) .. ..	10
Malacca Women's Training College ..	3
Batu Lintang Training Centre (Sarawak)	10

The Batu Lintang students included 4 untrained teachers and 6 probationers. Four Brunei teachers obtained 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place respectively in the annual examination. Ten others, 3 untrained and 7 probationers have been selected to proceed to this Training Centre in 1950. This will bring the total number of teachers in training up to 33. There are no facilities for training teachers in Brunei.

*Scholarships and Courses in English Schools.* In 1949, 7 students attended the Secondary class in the Batu Lintang Training Centre and School. The aim of the course given is to fit the students to take the Cambridge School Certificate Examination. Seven other students, bringing the total to 14, have been selected to undergo this course and will proceed to Kuching in January 1950. In December, 3 Malay boys, all under eleven, were selected to proceed to English Schools in Malaya. These students will enter Special Malay Classes to undergo a two years intensive course in English which will fit them to enter Standard four or five in their respective schools. Two of these students are going to the Teluk Kurau English School in Singapore and the other to the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, Perak, Federation of Malaya. All these students have been awarded scholarships. Government will pay tuition fees, lodging allowances and cost of return passages once a year. As these student were rather young Che Noordin bin Abd. Latiff, Ag. Inspector of Malay Schools, escorted them to Malaya. He reports that these



youngsters showed no signs of homesickness when he left them in Malaya and that all were eager to make the most of their unique opportunities.

*English Schools.* Of the 4 English Schools in Brunei 3 belong to the Roman Catholic Mission and 1 to the British Malayan Petroleum Company Limited. They all provide a Primary English Education. The Company's School has both Kindergarten and Primary Sections.

The names, locations and enrolments of these schools are:—

No.	School	1948			1949			Increase or Decrease
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
1.	Catholic English School, Brunei	119	32	151	136	51	187	36
2.	Catholic English School, Seria	126	82	208	176	106	282	74
3.	Catholic English School, Kuala Belait	88	46	134	90	46	136	2
4.	Senior Staff School B.M.P.Co., Seria	20	12	32	24	24	48	16
Total:		353	172	525	426	227	653	128

The 3 Catholic Mission Schools receive grants-in-aid from Government and in the case of the Seria Mission School the Company gives financial aid and provides the school building. The British Malayan Petroleum Company runs its own school and meets the entire cost of it. All the English Schools are registered schools.

The Mission schools experience great difficulties in obtaining adequate qualified staff and sufficient quantities of suitable text books. One or two of the schools are very badly pressed in respect of accommodation also. There is a percentage of over-age pupils in the Mission schools and in some individual classes wide age ranges are found. School fees are payable in these schools, but these are remitted in the cases of children whose parents are unable to pay them. It will be seen that the Catholic English Schools labour under considerable handicaps, some of which viz. lack of staff, textbooks and accommodation are difficult to overcome.

*Chinese Schools.* There are 5 Chinese Schools in Brunei. All are run by local Chinese Committees and are registered under the Registration of Schools Enactment 1939. With the exception of the Chinese School at Labi all receive grants-in-aid from Government. School fees are paid in these schools, but remission of fees is granted to those children whose parents are unable to pay.

The location and enrolments of the Chinese Schools are:—

No.	School	1948			1949			Increase or Decrease
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
1.	Chung Hwa School, Brunei Town	96	33	129	204	96	300	171
2.	Chung Cheng School, Seria ..	172	112	284	199	158	357	73
3.	Chung Hwa School, Tutong ..	36	13	49	32	7	39	-10

No.	School	1948			1949			Increase or Decrease.
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
4.	Chung Hwa School, Kuala Belait ..	271	213	484	323	223	546	62
5.	Chung Hwa School Labi ..	29	9	38	22	8	30	-8
Total:		604	380	984	780	492	1272	288

### Miscellaneous

*Scouts.* There are 4 Scout Troops in Brunei, 2 in Brunei Town and one each in Tutong and Belait. All are Malay School Troops. During the year parades were held twice a week, but there was very little done in respect of the more interesting field activities connected with scouting. It is hoped that these activities will be a prominent feature of training in 1950. Steps are being taken to resuscitate the Scout movement in Brunei. It is likely that the State Education Officer will become the State Commissioner. A healthy Scout movement will provide the youth with a useful and valuable outlet for their talents and energies.

*Finance.* The amount spent on Education during the year was \$143,072.60. This includes Departmental expenditure and personal emoluments of staff. It does not include cost of new schools, new teachers' quarters, repairs and upkeep of buildings nor amounts spent by the Public Works Department on school equipment borne by Public Works Department Votes. The above amount exceeds the 1948 figure by \$34,742.21.

*Summary.* The fact that the newly appointed State Education Officer did not take up his post until late in the year precludes any specific comments on the present standard of work in the Brunei Schools or comparisons between the years 1948 and 1949. Rehabilitation in Education has not been as rapid in Brunei as in Malaya, due more perhaps to its geographical remoteness than to any other single factor. The incidence of the war probably dealt a more severe blow to Brunei, educationally, than to Malaya because it caught Brunei not only at the moment when Education was gathering headway after a slow start; but also at a point when well laid schemes were about to be launched. The war period thus put Brunei back, as compared with Malaya, two stages; for it destroyed both the edifice and its foundations.

On future developments and policy, the general statement that adequate facilities for Education especially English Education, will be provided as soon as humanly possible, must suffice for the time being. Schools cannot be hurried into existence, sites have to be obtained and prepared, plans drawn, buildings erected, teachers procured and textbooks obtained. Preparations are in hand for Government English Schools, but the difficulty of procuring qualified and trained teachers, as mentioned previously, also obtained in this field.

The above statement as to future policy also refers to vernacular Education, both Malay and Chinese, which should not only be the basis of Brunei Education but the basis of a child's Education also. Many parents do not seem to agree with that idea, and do not send their children to their own Vernacular Schools, preferring to send them direct to an English School.



This is a doubtful practice; but perhaps not so reprehensible as to send children to a Vernacular school for one or two years and then; without regard to their ability, to remove and send them to an English School. So many of these children fail to make the grade and the usual result is that they are without recognised attainments in either their own or in the English language. It is hoped when Government English Schools are opened in Brunei to link them definitely with the Vernacular schools on the system prevailing in Special Malay Classes in Malaya and Singapore English Schools.

### *Health*

*Administration.* The Medical and Health administration of the State is in the hands of the State Medical Officer. During 1949 this post was held by Dr. L. J. Clapham who, like the Nursing Sister Miss E. K. Hughes, was seconded from the Sarawak Medical Department.

The British Malayan Petroleum Company at Kuala Belait employs two Medical Officers, one of whom receives a retaining fee from the Government and attends to Government patients in the Kuala Belait/Seria area. A close liaison is maintained between the State Medical Officer and the Chief Medical Officer of the Company.

### *Developments during the Year 1949.*

*New State Hospital.* The new State Hospital, which it is expected will take some 18 months to complete, was begun on August 1st. Work on this hospital is progressing more slowly than had been hoped and it is doubtful whether it will be completed within the allotted time. Equipment and supplies for this hospital are already arriving and there should, therefore, be little delay between completion of the buildings and their full equipment.

*Travelling Dispensaries.* During the year four travelling dispensaries have been put into operation. One is in the form of an ambulance which travels the available road between Brunei and Tutong in one direction, and Brunei and Muara in the other. This vehicle is also available at any time for use as an ambulance. Three river travelling dispensaries are based on the static dispensaries at Kuala Belait, Tutong and Temburong. These consist of 35 feet prahus and are powered by outboard engines. With the establishment of these travelling dispensaries, medical services have been correspondingly increased and became available to a larger section of the population than hitherto.

This year, once again, there would appear to be an increased demand for hospital treatment and accommodation, the number of in-patients treated this year being 1,257 compared with 955 in 1948, although conditions in the present temporary building are far from satisfactory. The average length of stay in hospital is eleven days.

There have been no serious epidemics during the year. Endemic malaria has been treated in selected areas by means of Paludrine and Gammexane with satisfactory results. Towards the

end of the year, there was a small outbreak of poliomyelitis which it is presumed had spread from Sarawak and North Borneo, both of which territories were affected before Brunei.

The number of Doctors per head of population is one to about 15,000. The corresponding figure for the United Kingdom is one to 1,100.

*Dispensaries and Hospital.* The present hospital is an old converted Malay house and most unsuitable for anything other than the simplest forms of treatment. However, the new hospital will have provision for a maternity ward and antenatal clinics, a female ward, a male ward 2nd class, a male ward 3rd class, a kitchen and laundry, a block for lepers and mental patients awaiting transfer to larger institutions and an administrative block containing X'ray department, dental clinic, out-patients department and an operating theatre. The total number of beds will be 100.

The British Malayan Petroleum Company maintains a hospital in Kuala Belait which serves the employees of the Oil Company and is also available to Government-sponsored patients. This hospital consists of 100 beds and has facilities for radiology, surgery and physiotherapy, in addition to the usual hospital facilities.

The Government maintains Dispensaries at Tutong, Kuala Belait and Temburong. The Dispensary at Muara has been closed during the year in view of the establishment of a road travelling dispensary, and the small number of persons treated previously in Muara. The dispensary at Tutong is to be rebuilt during 1950 as the structure of the building was damaged during the war. The dispensary at Kuala Belait is also to be rebuilt during 1950 as the present accommodation is entirely inadequate. The Temburong dispensary is a satisfactory building and requires no immediate alteration.

Brunei provides medical services and expendable stores, on repayment, to the Sarawak Government dispensaries at Limbang, Lawas and Sundar.

*Child Welfare and Maternity.* In Brunei, two infant welfare, maternity and ante-natal clinics are operated by Staff Nurses with the help of trained midwives. These clinics are very popular with both mothers and children and so far as Brunei Town is concerned, the primitive native midwife is almost extinct. Considerable emphasis is laid on domiciliary midwifery and few patients are delivered in hospital; these few are mainly suffering from some abnormality or difficulty in birth.

It is hoped that these clinics will receive considerable encouragement and impetus from the proposed U.N.I.C.E.F. scheme for Brunei in 1950. The proposal is that two Health Sisters will work in Brunei for 18 months, training local staff and supervising and expanding their work in health visiting, ante-natal clinics and child welfare.

During 1949 the infantile mortality rate was 128.3 which shows a fall of 11 on the figures for 1948.



*Sanitation and Refuse Disposal.* In the Sanitary Board areas night soil is collected in buckets and dumped into a convenient tidal river. In the Kuala Belait/Seria areas, a considerable number of houses have their own water-borne sanitation. A new large septic tank to serve 3500 persons has been installed in Kuala Belait for the disposal of bucket night soil.

Refuse in the three main centres is collected and disposed of by labourers under the supervision of the Sanitary Boards.

In most instances, disposal is by incineration. In the kampongs and particularly the River Kampong in Brunei, there is no proper sanitation or refuse disposal, but since the majority of house are built over a tidal river whose salt content is such as to render the water quite unsuitable for drinking, a certain amount of automatic self-cleansing results.

*Kuala Belait.* At present all refuse collected is being used in reclamation work. Later it is intended to revert to incineration using oil gas.

*Seria.* A gas-fired incinerator was installed early in 1949 but some of the refuse has been used in reclamation work. It is proposed to use a lorry for night soil and to install a septic tank for treatment as in Kuala Belait.

*Brunei Town.* Conservancy is by means of latrine buckets in the town area with daily emptying. Street and domestic refuse is incinerated.

*Food Animals.* All animals slaughtered for food in Brunei and Kuala Belait are inspected before and after death by Sanitary Inspectors under the supervision of the Sanitary Board.

The total number of animals slaughtered under the supervision of Sanitary Boards was:—

				<i>Kuala Belait</i>	<i>Brunei</i>
Cattle	..	..	..	406	446
Pigs	..	..	..	1,921	492

A substantial proportion of these animals was imported from North Borneo into the Kuala Belait/Seria market.

*Anti-malarial Measures.* The vector of malaria in Brunei is unknown. But the Borneo Malaria Research Team at present stationed in Labuan will shortly visit Brunei to investigate this problem. It is considered likely that the two main vectors will be found to be *Anopheles Sundaicus* and *A. leucosphyrus*.

At present, therefore, work is directed indiscriminately against all Anopheline larvae by means of oiling. This is undertaken by the Government Health Department in Brunei and during the year, for the first time since the war, in the Government areas in Kuala Belait and Seria. The British Malayan Petroleum Company now undertake anti-malarial work only within their lease areas. During the year prophylaxis by drugs has been continued among the police and customs employees and has been enlarged to include the Agricultural Department. Towards the end of the year, Gammexane spraying was employed on a large scale in the shop-house area of Brunei Town with satisfactory

results. Effective anti-malarial measures in the small, scattered communities of the State present a formidable problem. In most rural areas, malaria is endemic with spleen rates of 80% and more, and it is the population living in these areas which is of great importance in food-production throughout the State.

*Prevailing Diseases.* This year a new system of recording diseases has been introduced. It is that recommended in the World Health Organization International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Deaths. The abbreviated list of 150 causes of disease is used.

*Malaria.* Malaria is endemic throughout the State and responsible for a great deal of chronic ill-health and anaemia. Blackwater fever is almost unknown.

*Helminths.* Almost every patient coming to hospital or dispensaries for treatment suffers from either *Ascariasis* or *Ankylostomiasis* or both. Re-infestation after treatment is probably only a matter of time.

*Malnutrition.* Following on the ill-health resulting from malaria and worm infestation, evidence of malnutrition can be found in almost all sections of the community. The gross malnutrition resulting from starvation during the war period is not now seen.

It is probable that the most serious single vitamin deficiency results from lack of vitamin A, which is sufficient in the average diet.

*Pulmonary Tuberculosis.* The human form of pulmonary tuberculosis is regrettably common throughout the State. Although cattle are kept, it is unusual for any use to be made of their milk and, as a result, bovine tuberculosis is almost never encountered. It is considered that pulmonary tuberculosis represents a socio-economic question rather than a purely medical one.

The foregoing diseases, i.e. malaria, worm infestation and malnutrition, all combine to produce a state of lowered resistance, and this combined with overcrowding, lack of hygiene and the habit of spitting, strongly predisposes to tuberculous infection.

It is clear that to treat individual cases of tuberculosis will only scratch the surface of the problem. Prevention rather than cure is what is required, and education in health and hygiene above all.

*Veneral Diseases.* It is extremely difficult to assess the prevalence of venereal diseases, but it is not thought to constitute a very serious problem. The population as a whole is not aware of the dangers of these diseases. Where routine examinations are made, as for example, in the ante-natal clinics, the percentage of infected expectant mothers is not high (5%). The introduction of penicillin has gone a long way to help in eradication of these infections.

*Dysentery.* Both Amoebic and Bacillary Dysentery are endemic in Brunei, though during 1949 there has been no epidemic.



*Poliomyelitis.* Poliomyelitis has, up till now, been thought not to exist in Brunei, although there is no doubt that sporadic cases have occurred. Towards the end of the year a few cases were discovered, but did not reach epidemic proportions.

*Eye Diseases.* Acute and chronic infections of the eyes are common, particularly in children, and this often leads to blindness when neglected.

Energetic measures through the travelling dispensaries, inspection of school-children and the proposed U.N.I.C.E.F. health visiting is hoped to reduce materially the incidence of these diseases.

*Mental Diseases and Leprosy.* A few cases of Lunacy and Leprosy occur each year within the State, but they are now sent to Kuching, Sarawak, for treatment where greater facilities exist; and where a central institution for the treatment of these diseases is proposed to serve the three British Borneo territories.

### *Housing.*

#### *Urban Areas.*

*Brunei Town.* There are 88 shophouses in Brunei Town all of which are temporary structures replacing permanent shops destroyed by bombing. These will be pulled down when the new shophouses are erected. Matters relating to sanitation in the town are strictly guarded by the Sanitary Board and any structural alterations to be made to the buildings are submitted for approval to the Board. Periodic inspections of shophouses are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and strict control over sanitation is maintained. Only permanent or semi-permanent structures are now permitted to be built within the Sanitary Board area.

*Kuala Belait/Seria.* The average number of persons per house in these Sanitary Board areas is 12. This figure is somewhat high considering the type of house. There were five buildings put up this year as compared with 29 in 1948. The influx of population within recent years and the building regulations imposed by the Sanitary Board are perhaps the factors affecting the density.

The British Malayan Petroleum Company has its own housing scheme. Much has been done by them in this direction and more progress is expected in the coming year. The new Kuala Belait town plan covering the bazaar area has received approval in principal and works on a main street and reclamation are in progress.

A skeleton plan for a new township in Seria has been prepared and approved. An area of about 80 acres of jungle has to be felled, cleared and levelled and perimeter roads constructed before it will be possible to make an effective clearance of the confused huddle of temporary houses and shops that occupy the northern portion of the township. Work on the jungle clearing and construction of perimeter roads are now being carried out by the British Malayan Petroleum Company.

*Rural Areas.* Outside the Sanitary Board areas, housing is not subject to Government control but some bylaws relating to

housing and sanitation have been applied in certain areas. The usual native house is raised on poles about 5 feet from the ground. The more pretentious may have walls and floor of plank and be roofed with belian shingles. More commonly, however, the walls are of waterproof matting made from leaves of the nipah palm. The floors are of separated slats, split bamboo or nibong and the roofs of attap (palm thatch). They generally consist of an open-front verandah with two or more rooms and a separate kitchen joined to the main building by a raised platform. This type of building is cool, dry and effectively ventilated and apart from some over-crowding, the conditions under which this class of the population lives are reasonably satisfactory. Sanitation, however, where it exists at all is generally of the most primitive type.

Dayaks, Dusuns and Muruts generally live in communal long houses. These are long buildings on high piles between 6 to 10 feet from the ground with numerous doors to which the inhabitants gain access by ascending a ladder made of a tree trunk with steps cut into it. The buildings vary in length according to the number of inmates which may be as many as 200, and consist of a long covered verandah where the bachelors live and a line of rooms occupied by the married members of the community and their families. The sanitation of these houses is even more primitive than of those mentioned above, as pigs, goats and chickens live on the ground under the houses.

*Housing of Government employees.* In Brunei Town many Government servants who are natives of the State own their own houses. In the outstations and in the case of non-domiciled individuals, quarters are graded in classes and conform to approved standard plans. They are well-built structures each with a minimum accommodation of two rooms, a kitchen and adequate sanitary appointments. Police and certain other employees are housed in barracks.

The total number of new Government quarters erected in 1949 was 14.

*Housing on Estates and Mines.* Statutory requirements are prescribed by the Labour Code, which is now undergoing revision, for the housing of labourers on Estates and Mines. The type of married accommodation favoured on estates is a semi-detached house with a small garden attached. Where barrack type family accommodation is provided, the unit consists of two rooms and a kitchen. Estate labour is largely indigenous and on certain estates most labourers are non-resident and live in their own houses often situated a considerable distance away from their employment.

#### *Building Societies.*

There are no Building Societies in the State, but Government is generally willing to grant loans at a low rate of interest to approved applicants for the erection and repair of houses.

#### *Social Welfare.*

There is as yet no Social Welfare Department in the State, but the position is being carefully watched and if the need



becomes pressing appropriate measures will be taken. At present relief work among the poor is being carried out by the ladies' section of the Brunei Branch of the British Red Cross Society, with financial assistance from Government.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### LEGISLATION.

The main body of the law consists of the Enactments which have been passed from time to time within the State and certain Enactments of the previous Federated Malay States which have been applied to Brunei by the Courts Enactment, 1908, and the Federated Malay States Laws Adoption Enactment, 1939.

The external legislation which has been applied to the State comprises the Penal Code, the Law of Evidence, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Civil Procedure Code, the Law of Specific Relief and the Law of Contracts in force in the Federated Malay States before the war.

The language of all legislation is English.

The State Council met on 14 occasions and the following Enactments were passed:—

- (1) The Land Acquisition Enactment—which gives powers for the compulsory acquisition of alienated land in the public or private interest.
- (2) The Forest (Amendment) Enactment—which gives powers to regulate or prohibit the export from or import into the State of any class of forest produce.
- (3) The National Registration Enactment—which makes it compulsory for every person in the State of the age of 14 or over to be registered, subject to certain exceptions.
- (4) The Aliens Registration (Amendment) Enactment—which makes certain minor amendments to the principal Enactment.
- (5) The Immigration (Amendment) Enactment—which amends one of the sub-sections dealing with prohibited immigrants.
- (6) The Police Force Enactment—which repeals all existing Police Force legislation and makes certain important new provisions especially in regard to foreign service.
- (7) The Societies (Amendment) Enactment—This Enactment compels all Societies to notify their existence to the Registrar.
- (8) The Diplomatic Privileges (Extension) Enactment—This Enactment makes provision as to the immunities, privileges and capacities of international organizations of which His Majesty's Governments are members and for purposes connected with the matters aforesaid.
- (9) The Registration of Criminals Enactment—which provides for the registration of criminals convicted of

certain offences and the notification of such registration to the Governments of the Federation of Malaya, the Colony of Sarawak and the Colony of North Borneo.

- (10) The Moratorium Proclamation (Repeal) Enactment— which terminates the Moratorium imposed by the Moratorium Proclamation, 1945.
- (11) The Limitation (Special Provisions) Enactment— which provides for the exclusion of the period of the Japanese occupation of Brunei and the period during which the Moratorium Proclamation, 1945, was in force in computing the period of limitation.
- (12) The Debtor and Creditor (Occupation Period) Enactment—This Enactment regulates the relationship between Debtors and Creditors in respect of debts incurred prior to and during the period of the enemy occupation of Brunei.
- (13) The Income Tax Enactment—which imposes a tax on income and regulates the collection thereof. Under this Enactment such taxation is imposed upon Companies only for the present.

## CHAPTER IX.

### JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

The Courts constituted in the State for the administration of civil and criminal law are as follows:—

The Court of Appeal  
 The Court of the Resident  
 Courts of Magistrates of the First Class  
 Courts of Magistrates of the Second Class  
 Courts of Native Magistrates  
 Courts of Kathis.

*Court of Appeal.* The Chief Justice, Sarawak, is Judge of Appeal for Brunei, with jurisdiction in both civil and criminal matters.

*Court of the British Resident.* The Court of the Resident has jurisdiction in all matters of a civil nature excepting the annulment of marriages solemnized between Christians in the United Kingdom or in any British Colony, protectorate or possession, and criminal jurisdiction in the case of all offences committed in the State or on the high seas on board ships registered in the State or committed by subjects of the State on the high seas on board ships whether registered in the State or not. It may pass any sentence authorized by law, including sentence of death. In its appellate jurisdiction it has power to hear and determine all appeals from the decisions of the lower Courts both in civil and criminal matters.

*Court of the First Class Magistrate.* The Court of a Magistrate of the First Class has original civil jurisdiction in suits involving not more than \$1,000 and original criminal jurisdiction



in the case of offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed seven years or which are punishable by fine only. The sentences which may be passed by the Court are imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, fine not exceeding \$1,000 and whipping not exceeding 12 strokes. The Court has also appellate criminal and civil jurisdiction in respect of cases tried by the lower Courts.

*Court of the Second Class Magistrate.* The Court of a Magistrate of the Second Class has civil jurisdiction in suits involving not more than \$100 and criminal jurisdiction in the case of offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed three years, or which are punishable with fine only of a sum not exceeding \$100. The sentences which may be passed by the Court are imprisonment for a term not exceeding 14 days and fine not exceeding \$50.

*Court of the Native Magistrate.* The Court of a Native Magistrate has civil jurisdiction in suits brought by or against Malays or other Asiatics involving not more than \$25, and criminal jurisdiction in the case of offences for which the maximum terms of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed three months. It may impose a fine not exceeding \$10.

*Court of the Kathi.* The Court of a Kathi deals solely with questions concerning Mohammedan religion, marriage and divorce, and may impose a fine not exceeding \$10.

Procedure in the Courts is regulated by the provisions of the Federated Malay States Criminal Procedure and Civil Procedure Code, these Enactments having been applied to the State, mutatis mutandis, by the Federated Malay States Laws Adoption Enactment, 1939. The former includes provision for the granting of time for the payment of fines, the release on probation of first offenders and the special treatment of youthful offenders.

There were two First Class Magistrates, six second Class Magistrates and one Kathi functioning in the State during the year.

The following table shows the number of cases instituted and disposed of in the various Courts:—

	Court of Appeal		Court of Resident		Court of 1st Class Magistrate		Court of 2nd Class Magistrate		Total	
District	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil
Brunei	1	—	15	—	11	10	185	15	212	25
Belait	—	1	—	1	77	19	180	32	257	53
Tutong	—	—	—	—	2	—	35	—	37	—
Temburong	—	—	—	—	1	—	9	2	10	2
Muara	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	—
	1	1	15	1	91	29	412	49	519	80

Of the 519 criminal cases convictions were registered in 420 cases, 60 resulted in acquittal, 34 were withdrawn and 5 were pending.

The amount involved in civil suits was \$15,774.

There were eight Letters of Administration suits in respect of estates aggregating \$78,470 in value.

### *Police.*

*Strength and Distribution.* The force was up to strength at the end of the year: at the beginning of the year it had been 35 under-strength. A further increase for 1950 has been approved: whether this can be implemented will largely depend upon the accommodation available. The distribution of the force is entirely disproportionate to requirements. Seria is the most important place in the State and has only 16 policemen under the command of a sergeant. The absurdity of this is apparent, but the building of a new police station and barracks in Seria is entirely dependent upon the speed which it is possible to clear the area set apart for Government building.

The Force is very short of Gazetted Officers and Inspectors: not only is it administratively weak at Headquarters, but the daily routine of drills, patrols, beats, investigations, and prosecutions all require much more detailed supervision and control than they receive at present. This becomes ever more necessary as the force expands.

*Status.* The secondment of an officer of the Sarawak Constabulary as Chief Police Officer marks a new phase in the history of the State Police. The Force is still an independent organization, the Chief Police Officer being responsible to the British Resident, but it is obvious that, if only for geographical reasons, the Sarawak connection must become closer, and some form of federation, if not a closer link, seems inevitable. Such an arrangement would be beneficial for Brunei in many respects, but it is important to avoid the fallacy of supposing that unification would by itself necessarily mean increased efficiency.

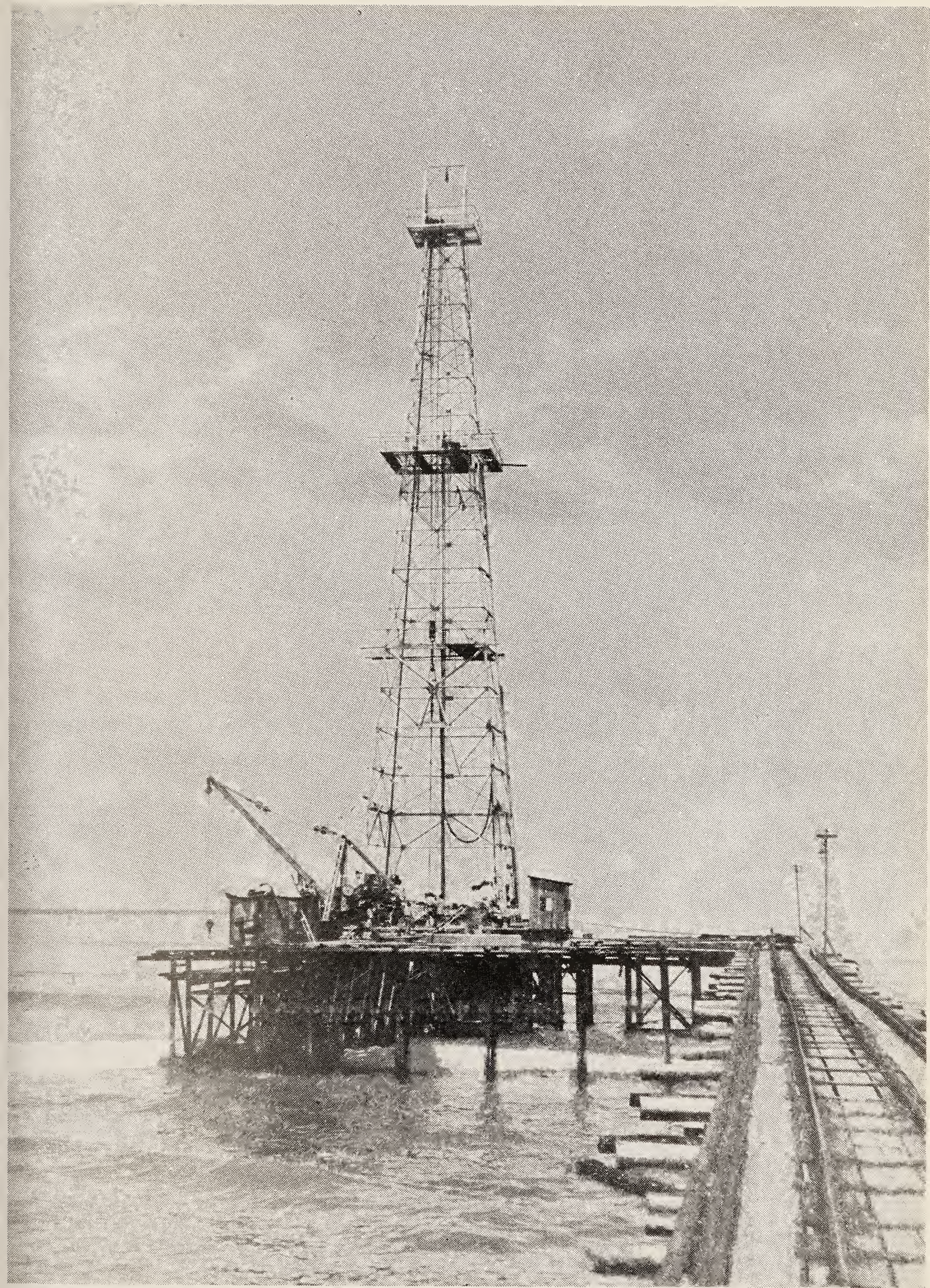
*Discipline.* Discipline has been fairly satisfactory. The number of dismissals—ten—is high, but it is vastly better to get rid of lazy or thoroughly inefficient men than constantly to default them. The great majority of offences were of a comparatively trivial nature. Although it may be said that the grosser forms of indiscipline were of infrequent occurrence, there is undoubtedly room for improvement, particularly in the realization of individual responsibility which is the corner-stone of police discipline.

*Health.* Health has been good throughout the year. There has been practically no malaria, although there may well be a good deal of hookworm, and possibly also of malnutrition due to a badly-balanced diet.

*Recruitment.* It is not easy to attract suitable recruits in Brunei. Competition from the British Malayan Petroleum Company is strong, and, amongst Malays with a little schooling, the attraction of the "white-collar" job is strong.

It is easy to tend to regard literacy as the most important qualification in a recruit, and automatically to reject the illiterate.





OIL WELL IN THE SEA, SERIA





RURAL SCHOOL, KILANAS



H. H. THE SULTAN'S SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION, BRUNEI TOWN





BEACH ROAD, TUTONG—SERIA



PLOUGHING WITH BUFFALOES





SILVERSMITHS AT WORK



applicant. This tendency can easily be carried too far, and several illiterate recruits have been taken on during the year. They are making fair progress and it is not unreasonable to hope that will make satisfactory constables.

*Training.* Training is a basic problem. There is no training manual and there are no competent instructors. The instructors are N.C.Os. who were, for the most part, constables before the war and have never been thoroughly trained themselves, let alone trained to instruct others. This Force is far from being efficient and one of the fundamental reasons for this is to be found in the absence of any systematic instruction. An elementary training manual has been prepared and it is hoped that every man in the Force will receive a copy during 1950. But this will not mean that there is no longer any need for trained instructors. Recruits absorb instruction more easily in a practical form, and instructors with a sound knowledge of police duties and procedure, and with the ability to impart their knowledge in an interesting, varied, and intelligible way are sorely needed. This question is receiving active consideration.

The Force is not hampered by having an excessive number of ageing and incompetent N.C.Os. Of a total strength of 169 there are only 41 men with pre-war service. Of these only 14 are N.C.Os. and of this number only 6 were N.C.Os. pre-war. The total number of N.C.Os. in the Force is now 30.

This is a hopeful factor as it means that very few of the N.C.Os. have reached the unteachable stage.

*Duties.* The Police in Brunei undertake a number of duties which are not strictly Police duties at all. These duties are:—

- (i) The maintenance and manning of the fire engines in Brunei and Kuala Belait.
- (ii) The inspection of motor vehicles prior to registration, and the testing of drivers.
- (iii) The registration of vehicles and the issue of drivers' licences.
- (iv) The issue of second-hand dealers licences.
- (v) The issue of provision shop licences outside the Sanitary Board areas.
- (vi) The verification of weights and measures.

The responsibility for the issue of bicycle and dog licences has, with effect from 1/1/1950, been transferred to other Government Departments; prior to that date, it was a police responsibility.

At the beginning of the year there was not a single clerk in the Force. All the clerical work was done by Inspectors, Detectives, or N.C.Os. To use the few competent men available as clerks is an inefficient system, and efforts are being made to rectify it.

*Housing.* The housing position continues to be difficult.



All three blocks of temporary married quarters in Brunei require constant repair: one block which showed signs of imminent collapse has had to be propped up.

The Police Station in Brunei consists of that part of the pre-war hospital which remained standing after the Allied bombing.

The Police Station and Barracks in Kuala Belait are in good condition.

The temporary Seria Barracks, built three years ago, are situated in semi-swamp and are barely habitable.

Kajang police stations are a security hazard and building of a new station at Seria is a matter of great urgency; and at Brunei hardly less so.

There is, however, good cause for hoping that some progress will be made in the coming year. Work started in December on the first new block of married quarters in Brunei, and it is hoped that new Police Stations in both Seria and Brunei will be completed in 1950.

*Clothing and Equipment.* There was an acute shortage of khaki drill throughout the greater part of the year, but this was eased in November by the long-awaited arrival of a shipment from England. Faulty store organization, due to lack of staff, was responsible for a shortage of many other necessary articles of equipment, but some improvement may be expected in 1950.

*Arms and Ammunition.* A survey of rifles by a competent armourer is very much needed. It is hoped that the armourer from Sarawak will be able to come to Brunei early in 1950.

*Communications and Transport.* With the expansion of the Force, more motor transport will certainly be required: the problem of maintenance is one which will require careful attention.

*Company Police.* The British Malayan Petroleum Company in the past have paid a mixed Malay/Dayak force of about 200 men to act as watchmen on various Company installations. These men were recruited as Additional Police under the Police Force Enactment, and were nominally under the control of the Chief Police Officer. This control was remote and little exercised as all their duties are arranged by the Company's Labour Supervisor. One State Police Sergeant-Major is seconded for duty to this organization with the temporary rank of Inspector. This arrangement has not proved altogether satisfactory. The desirability of the reversion of this body to the status of watchmen only is generally accepted, and the change-over has now been completed. These men, although almost completely untrained, perform a useful function in that, without them, pilfering of Company's property would probably be on a considerably larger scale than at present.

*Visit of Police Adviser.* Mr. D. C. Johnson, the Police Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, visited Brunei in September. He made a number of valuable suggestions.



*Crimes.* Serious crime throughout the year has been negligible. Full employment and high wages are undoubtedly the cause. The Singapore C.I.D. have co-operated most willingly and efficiently in preventing the entry into Brunei of known bad characters from Singapore. It is, however, only recently that the finger-printing of applicants for employment with the British Malayan Petroleum Company has been instituted in Singapore. Prior to that, the screening was on a name and photo basis only, and a number of bad characters did succeed in entering the State. With the co-operation of the Singapore C.I.D. several of them have been sent back to Singapore: but it would be optimistic to suppose that none remain.

Only one case of an attempted armed hold-up was reported during the year: there were no serious cases of robbery and few of house-breaking.

European bungalows in Seria must be a constant temptation to thieves. These kajang bungalows cannot be locked at night, and the casual way in which articles of value are frequently left lying on dressing tables makes one wonder why thefts are not more frequent. Although, during the year under review, thefts from European bungalows were on a reduced scale, only 19 cases being reported, there was a good deal of petty pilfering from wharves, material stores, and other British Malayan Petroleum Company installations. The number of such cases was, however, small in relation to the size of the field, the opportunities presented, and the number of labourers employed: and the total value of articles stolen was slight.

The detection of crime in such a densely populated area presents particular difficulties, and it should also be borne in mind that most of the house-breakings reported were of a technical nature, the value of the stolen articles was usually small, and the articles themselves more often than not unidentifiable.

The police in Seria labour under one great disadvantage in the investigation of crime: and that is the language difficulty. There is not a single English or Chinese speaking police officer in Seria. This disability is reflected in the standard of investigation which is low.

*Immigration.* Immigration control is not very satisfactory. The British Resident deals with policy and the grant of visas: the police are responsible for the issue of Certificates of Admission and Certificates of Identity. The police are also responsible for the examination of the passports of persons arriving in and departing from the State. The British Malayan Petroleum Company's demand for labour, which has to be balanced against the importance of preventing the entry of undesirable criminal elements, is a fruitful source of immigration problems. The whole problem is extremely complex, and there are good grounds for holding that the formation of an Immigration Department is not only justifiable but absolutely necessary. A vexatious and unnecessary complication is the unnatural frontier with Sarawak, which creates problems and misunderstandings quite out of proportion to its importance. Another equally tiresome complication is the fact



that the three British Borneo territories each has entirely different immigration and passport laws.

*Societies.* At the end of the year 33 societies were registered or had notified their existence. Societies with known political backgrounds or connections are few and their overt political activities appear to have been slight.

In the absence of newspapers it is difficult to ascertain the reactions of the local Chinese to events in China: it can only be said that they have shown no visible signs of discontent with their lot in Brunei.

*Labour.* Labour disputes were few and peaceably conducted. Reference has already been made to the British Malayan Petroleum Company's shortage of labour. Satisfactory sources of supply are not easily found, and the problem is beset with difficulties.

Chinese labour recruited from Singapore has not proved uniformly satisfactory and attempts to secure labour from other sources outside the State have so far proved abortive.

*Legislation.* The following new legislation of interest to the Police was passed during the year—the Registration of Criminals Enactment, the Police Force Enactment and the National Registration Enactment.

The Police Force Enactment is of especial interest in that it enables, in certain circumstances, detachments of police from Sarawak or North Borneo to do duty in Brunei and vice versa.

National Registration will probably prove a valuable aid to the Police in many ways. The issue of Identity Cards in Kuala Belait had been completed by the end of the year and is expected to start in Brunei early in 1950.

*Conclusoin.* The existing organization is severely strained in attempting to cope with the ordinary day-to-day routine of police work under normal conditions. It would be unwise to assume that these conditions will continue indefinitely. It is realized that the Force is quite inadequate to cope with any appreciable disturbance of public order and a considerable increase in strength has therefore been approved for 1950.

#### *Prisons.*

The Prison Department is run by the Police. This is recognized as unsatisfactory in principle, but there are at present certain practical difficulties in the way of its transference to the control of the Administration. In order to obviate the use of policemen as warders, the formation of a separate Prisons Service is under consideration.

The Jail in Brunei is a temporary wooden building which can accommodate a maximum of sixteen prisoners. Financial provision has been made for the building of a new jail in 1950.

The Jail in Kuala Belait is part of the Police Station: it can accommodate about thirty prisoners.



The prisoners are mainly employed on maintenance of Government grounds.

The total number of prisoners admitted to both jails during the year was only 49, of whom 12 remained at the end of the year.

Members of a Board of Visiting Justices appointed by the British Resident inspect both Jails monthly.

There is no accommodation in the State for female prisoners.

No punishment was inflicted on any prisoner during the year.

The health of the prisoners was good.

No applications have been received from any religious or prisoners aid societies to visit the Jails.

## CHAPTER X. COMMUNICATIONS.

*Shipping.* The Ports of the State commencing from the western end are as follows:—

- (a) Kuala Belait, situated a few hundred yards from the Belait River mouth.
- (b) Tutong, situated about three miles from the Tutong River mouth.
- (c) Muara (Brooketon), situated on the western shore of Muara Harbour.
- (d) Brunei Town, situated nine miles from an inner bar where the Brunei River meets Brunei Bay.
- (e) Bangar, situated eight miles up the Temburong River.

Approaches to these ports are conditioned by tides, depths, bars, barriers, snags and all the usual maritime difficulties.

No large ocean-going ship can reach any of these ports. Connection with such vessels is made at the island of Labuan (now part of the Colony of North Borneo) which lies some 35 miles distant from Brunei Town in a north easterly direction. The majority of trade is carried on at Kuala Belait and Brunei Town.

The Oil Company runs a considerable fleet of the L.C.T. type for the conduct of its business. The majority of these use Kuala Belait as a port. Messrs. Harrison & Crosfield run an A.V. (Auxiliary Vessel) of about 200 tons which works the tide over the bar. She plies between Brunei Town and Labuan about four times a month.

In addition to these vessels, native boats such as tongkangs, junks and small boats carry on coastal trade around the Borneo ports on a small scale.

The State runs a motor launch service between Brunei Town and Bangar, and Brunei Town and Labuan. The latter service carries the mail and passengers to connect with the air service.



It also connects as far as possible with the Straits Steamship service at Labuan which now runs every week to and from Singapore and Borneo ports. Each journey entails a return trip of 70 miles across Brunei Bay in all weathers and is a strain on the three small ex-army launches which form the State's only service.

Vessels are limited to a draft of 7 feet over the inner bar of Brunei river at the lowest Mean Spring Tides and larger vessels which could work the tide are limited to about 12 feet alongside the Customs Wharf at Brunei.

A sound concrete Wharf still stands in Brunei Town with a length of 200 feet. There is water but no fuel other than benzine is procurable. There is no lifting appliance or dock facilities but a full Customs Service is provided. A good road gives access from the wharf to the town and connects with the general road communication.

The port and town of Tutong is very small; its wants are supplied chiefly by road and the amount of shipping is negligible. The bar at the river mouth is shifting, shallow and dangerous.

Muara (Brooketon) is a small fishing village and shipping is limited to small native craft of the sampan type, but there is deep water close up to the wharf and this is the only place which is likely to develop into a real port.

**Roads.** Brunei State has no extensive system of properly constructed roads. This is partly due to the fact that, except at Seria, the State is not yet highly developed and its resources (other than oil) are mainly agricultural.

A second reason for the lack of metalled roads is the great shortage of good road stone. There are no quarries in the State, and the few deposits of sandstone which exist are quite unsuitable for road making purposes owing to the soft nature of the stone.

Supplies of gravel are obtained from the Butir area, 4 miles downstream from Brunei Town, and the stone has to be transported upstream by junk or tongkang (barge).

Coral and sandstone are brought in a similar manner from the islands of Berbunut and Chermin, situated near the mouth of the Brunei River. Coral is the better material for road making purposes.

At the end of 1949 the total length of roads in the State was 137 miles 45 chains and 38 feet made up as follows:

Earth	..	..	..	75	miles	46	chains	15	feet
Block	..	..	..	3	"	71	"	28	"
Block and gravel	..	..	..	0	"	63	"	64	"
Asphalt	..	..	..	55	"	29	"	10	"
Concrete	..	..	..	1	"	74	"	53	"

The main road runs from Brunei Town to Tutong a distance of approximately 30 miles. The whole of this has been re-metalled since the occupation and considerable widening and improvements made.



Connection from Tutong to the Oil Company's roads at Seria is by ferry across the Tutong river and thence by the beach at low or medium tide, approximately 25 miles.

Other roads run from Brunei to Muara and Berakas, from Brunei to Lumapas and from the 19th mile Tutong Road to Lamunin.

The Oil Company has an extensive road system of about 43 miles which connects Seria with Kuala Belait.

There are ferries over the Belait and Tutong Rivers.

There are over 33 miles of bridle paths, but internal communication within the State is mainly by river.

*Railways.* The Oil Company maintains a light railway from Seria to its water-supply station at Badas about 8 miles long. There is no other railway in the State.

*Air.* There are no airfields or landing grounds in the State. Communication by air is therefore only possible by the use of flying boats which can land on most of the larger rivers.

*Posts.* There are Post Offices at Brunei Town, Tutong, Temburong (Bangar), Kuala Belait and Muara. Mails are conveyed by lorry or launch.

There is an air-mail service twice weekly from Singapore to Labuan in addition to a weekly surface mail. These are brought over by Government launch, a distance of 35 miles.

The total number of postal articles dealt with during the year was 394,834 compared with 241,724 in 1948.

*Telecommunications.* Government maintains a small public telephone service with a 50-line switch board in Brunei Town. There are extensions to the neighbouring estates and to Tutong, Kuala Belait and Muara.

Direct radio-telegraph service is maintained between Brunei and Singapore Radio.

For internal communication there are stations at Kuala Belait, Seria and Temburong. Brunei Station is also in direct communication with Jesselton, Labuan, Kuching, Miri and Limbang.

## CHAPTER XI.

### PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS.

#### A. *Electricity Supply.*

*Brunei Town.* The supply at present is a temporary one and it has only been possible to supply Electricity for street lighting and lighting Government quarters and buildings on a limited scale. It has not been possible to give a supply to shop houses or other business premises.

The installation consists of 2 units comprising a portable Army set 10 K.W. (A.C.) which feeds the Town area including



street lighting and one 8 K.W. (D.C.) set which supplies light for the Residency and Senior Officers quarters in the Residency area.

The 10 K.W. Ford V8 engine generating set continues to give a supply on its own for five hours a day. It has now been run five hours daily for over 4½ years. During the whole of this period it was out of commission for one day on 8 occasions and for more than one hour several times. The potential load is much greater than the capacity of the 10 K.W. and restrictions were imposed on all consumers.

Indents for two 75 K.W. and one 22 K.W. generating sets were placed with the Crown Agents for the Colonies in 1947 and one or two sets should have been delivered towards the later part of 1949, but it is most disappointing that to date not one has arrived. Advice has however been received that the two 75 K.W. sets were despatched from England on the 23rd December, 1949.

*Distribution.* The laying of the entire overhead mains was delayed on account of the New Town Plan which has not yet been pegged out in all areas.

In connection with the Town Plan it became necessary to lay down a new distribution system for the whole Town. A start was made on laying the mains outside the Town Area and as far as possible some poles were erected in the Town Area itself.

All consumers were severely restricted as to the number and size of lamps they may use. This condition has been imposed since the re-opening of the supply in August 1945. The hours of supply were extended from 6.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.

There were 88 consumers connected to the supply at the end of the year.

The electrical installations in Government quarters and buildings were inspected and repaired where necessary. A total of 374 points for lights, fans or plugs were re-wired in Government quarters.

Owing to shortage of meters all consumers had been connected to the supply on a flat rate based on the lamps installed. This type of tariff is particularly subject to abuse and fortunately sufficient new meters were received during the year to enable all consumers supplies to be metered.

Street lighting was restricted to a total of 9-40 watts lights.

*Kuala Belait.* Since 18th February, 1949, a bulk supply has been purchased under agreement from the British Malayan Petroleum Company for distribution to the Government quarters and buildings and private houses.

The entire distribution system was renewed including the erection of steel street standards.

The total number of lighting and power consumers connected at the end of the year was 126 of which 66 are new consumers.



A total of 91 new points were installed in Government buildings during the year while rewiring was carried out to 211 points.

113 meters were installed for new supplies during the year. The total number of meters installed at the end of the year was 126 single phase meters.

#### *B. Water Supply.*

*Brunei Town.* A 6 inch meter was installed and record of consumption kept. An average daily consumption of 90,000 gallons per day was observed.

The difficulty of obtaining large mains and specials is still being felt as orders placed in 1948 are not yet to hand; however the Town Supply was kept going satisfactorily.

A new 3 inch main 1027 feet in length and a new 2 inch main 802½ feet in length were laid. Old 3 inch mains were renewed for a length of 1125 feet and 2 inch mains were enlarged to 3 inch mains for a length of 123 feet during the year.

Parts of the 3 inch mains in Sumbiling area had to be re-aligned due to location of new Government quarters in this area and a new 3 inch connection was also made to the New Hospital area.

A dam was built in a small valley behind the Rest House and a storage of over 500 gallons provided. Supplies for 3 Senior Officers' quarters were made from this supply.

*Bangar.* The Bangar supply failed during parts of the year owing to severe droughts.

As there are no springs within the catchments the storage had to depend entirely on rain.

*Muara.* This was maintained satisfactorily during the year. The pipes of this supply are now old and require renewal, but as no definite scheme has yet been evolved for the expansion of the Town the matter has been deferred.

*Tutong.* The Tutong water mains were completely stripped, cleaned of rust and silt and relaid. The silt problem in Tutong is very great as the supply from catchment passes through a swamp carrying considerable amount of silt in its wake. The 5 inch scour valve is unable to deal with it as the head is not very great.

*Kuala Belait and Seria.* The supply position is still unsatisfactory as existing supply by the company is meagre and full of dirt. But it is hoped that some satisfactory solution will be evolved by the Municipal Water Engineer, Singapore, whose advice has been sought and who is expected to pay a visit early in 1950.

#### *Public Works.*

The Department had a very large programme to carry out during 1949 and many difficulties were encountered during the



year. The shortage of materials and the small number of Contractors resulted in many approved projects being postponed but an improvement in the position was apparent during the last quarter.

The timber position is still serious and though some local firms took up the exploitation of local timber produce the supplies were in a small amount and mostly of unseasoned timber. The shortage of timber has caused a serious delay to many contracts and it is still impossible to build up a stock of hardwood timber.

The P.W.D. Stores as a result of the shortage of materials had to carry a large stock of all engineering stores to meet the requirements of the works programme. The majority of the contractors purchase their materials through the P.W.D. Store.

The Suspense Stock and stores issue show an increase over previous years:

Suspense stock as on 15-12-48 value \$184,127.39

Suspense stock as on 15-12-49 value \$214,730.80

Stores issued during 1949 amounted to \$493,710.08 (including purchases on direct vote).

The present small workshop was fully employed during 1949 and carried out maintenance work to P.W.D. vehicles and plant; vehicles of other departments and pool transport.

The vehicles maintained were:—

- 3 Motor Cars
- 18 Lorries
- 8 Jeeps
- 4 Motor-cycles

The Plant maintained was—

- 8 Stationary Engines
- 2 Bulldozers
- 1 Tractor
- 1 Compressor
- 1 Outboard
- 4 Concrete Mixers.

The blacksmiths and welding shops carried out a large amount of repair work in reconditioning tarboilers, making bolts and nuts, guttering and general repairs to machinery.

A new Workshop has been designed and the prefabricated steel structure has now arrived. A large amount of equipment has been ordered for installation in the new workshop of which the following items have been received:—

- 2 Grinding Machines
- 1 Shell Testing Volt Meter
- 1 Megger Insulation Tester
- 1 Champion Plug Tester
- 1 Blacksmith Hearth
- 1 Electric Diesel Welder
- 1 Tyre Changer
- 1 Backsawing Machine.



In addition to the normal duties of the Department, work was carried out on behalf of other Departments and a large mileage of transport was supplied.

Transport mileage during the year totalled 264,195 miles, of which 244,103 miles were for Public Works Department and 12,388 miles were for other Departments and 7,704 miles for private persons, mainly contractors.

*Staff.* The post of State Engineer was held by Mr. J. A. McLeod, a seconded officer of the Malayan Public Works Department, up to 6th August and Mr. K. Natarajan was appointed Acting State Engineer from 6th August until 12th December when Mr. J. J. Howard of the Sarawak Service took charge.

The Staff consisted of the following:—

1. Technical Staff	—	Chief Technical Assistant	2
		Senior " "	2
		Building Overseer .. ..	1
		Building Sub-Overseer .. ..	1
		Road Overseer .. ..	1
		Road Sub-Overseer .. ..	1
2. Office Staff	—	Clerk Grade A .. ..	1
		Clerk Grade B .. ..	2
		Clerk on Agreement .. ..	1
		Peon .. ..	1
3. Drawing Office	—	Draughtsman .. ..	1
		Tracer .. ..	2
4. Stores	—	Store-keeper .. ..	1
		Assistant Store-keeper .. ..	1
5. Work-shop	—	Work-shop Foreman .. .. (Overseer)	1

Many staff difficulties arose during the year which were caused by illness and transfers, which greatly delayed the work.

The State Engineer on secondment from Malaya was recalled in August and one Senior Technical Assistant also on secondment from Malaya was recalled in December.

One Senior Technical Assistant and permanent Store-keeper were retired due to illness and the Road Overseer was away for a period of six months.

### *Works and Buildings.*

*Annually Recurrent.* All existing quarters were maintained in a state of good repair.

Repainting of all the quarters left over from 1948 was completed.



The floor of the Residency which is over 30 years old was renewed and the roof re-attaped. Repairs to non Government buildings were carried out to a value of \$8,895.00.

*Public Works Extraordinary.* The building programme as already stated was large and contractors who had experience in building were so scarce that building took a long time to complete.

A start was made on the New Hospital at Brunei and after considerable preliminaries the Maternity Ward is now taking shape. The contractors for this project are Messrs. George Wimpey & Company Limited who are carrying out the work by their cement foam process.

The school and the Istana sites were made ready during the year and a lot of lee-way was made in the preparations of plans.

One senior officer's quarters was completed and occupied. The other senior officer's quarters is nearing completion. The Nursing Sister's quarters and the Fisheries Officer's quarters were also completed though there was considerable trouble during construction through land-slides on both the sites. Of the smaller buildings many were started, but a lot still requires to be done. The delay is due to all contractors being full employed and their inability to cope up with any additional work.

A new wharf with re-inforced concrete piles and timber beams and decking was completed at Tutong.

A new workshop which was ordered from Messrs. United Engineers Limited (prefabricated) has arrived and requires to be erected.

A granary was built on behalf of the Agricultural Department at Mulaut. This was paid from the Agricultural Votes.

Of the 96 items listed under this head 17 items (revoted from 1948) were completed during the year. 18 items (new votes) were also completed. 31 items were started of which 5 are almost completed. 30 items are not started.

The new permanent buildings completed during the year are as follows:—

<i>Brunei</i> .. ..	1 Customs post, Baru-Baru
	1 Block of Nursing Sister's quarters
	1 Senior Officer's quarters
	1 Block Class "C" quarters
	3 Block Class "F" quarters
	1 New Recreation Club
	1 Power Station
	1 Fishery Officer's quarters
<i>Muara</i> .. ..	1 Slip-way
<i>Kuala Belait</i> ..	1 New Malay School, Danau
	1 Block quarters and Office, Kg. Ganaliang
	1 Rest House
	1 Petrol Store



Tutong	..	1 New Malay School, Sinaut 1 Block Class "G" quarters, Sinaut
Temburong	..	1 Block Class "G" quarters, Bangar

During the year 46 contracts were entered into for various items of works.

### *Roads, Streets and Bridges.*

The re-metalling of the Brunei-Tutong main road was completed by the end of the year with the exception of a few yards in Tutong village. This work was hampered by insufficient supplies of block metal. Several deviations were also made.

Large new bridges were built at Sungei Tongkadeh in Brunei Town and Sungei Taring in Kuala Belait and many smaller ones were re-built along the various roads.

Considerable improvement to earth roads was effected, especially to the Brunei-Muara road.

Over 6 miles of bridle-paths were completely rehabilitated and 11 bridges built.

The formation of the dual track in Jalan Sultan, Brunei Town, was completed according to the new town plan and metalling will commence in 1950.

A considerable amount of reclamation was done in Brunei and Kuala Belait towns which will provide valuable building sites in the near future.

Extension of river walls in Brunei Town amounted to 530 feet and the sea-wall at Muara was prolonged by 260 feet.

---

## PART III.

### CHAPTER I.

## GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

### *Geography*

Brunei is a State on the north-west coast of Borneo, lying between latitude  $4^{\circ} 2''$  and  $5^{\circ} 3''$  north and longitude  $114^{\circ} 4'$  and  $115^{\circ} 22''$  east. It forms two enclaves into the territory of Sarawak, by which it is bounded on all sides, or perhaps it would be more correct to say, historically speaking, that an intrusion of Sarawak formed by the basin of the Limbang River splits the State into two separate parts. It comprises an area of some 2,226 square miles, and has a coast line of about one hundred miles extending from Brunei Bay in the East to the boundary with Sarawak in the West.

The capital of the same name, or, to give it its honorific Arabic title, Daru'l Salam (Abode of Peace) is situated on the Brunei River about nine miles from its mouth and is distant by sea 759 nautical miles from Singapore. At the time of the last census in 1947 it had a population of 10,620. Prior to 1910 the town consisted entirely of Malay houses built on nibong piles.



on mud flats in the river, but it has now spread over a portion of the mainland, partly reclaimed, on which the Government Offices and other public buildings and streets of shophouses have been built.

Set in a wide sweep of the river this river town is in its way unique. At high tide under favourable conditions of light it takes on a quite remarkable beauty; viewed at close quarters it is even more remarkably ramshackle. The houses are grouped together in small villages, many being connected by precarious bridges, and there the inhabitants carry on their multifarious activities in much the same way as if they were on land.

The only other town of any size is Kuala Belait at the southwestern end of the State's seaboard with a population of about 4,800. In the Seria area, which is the centre of a rapidly expanding oil producing district and the local headquarters of the British Malayan Petroleum Company, the population is approximately 8,500. At Kuala Belait with municipal services, piped water supply, electric light, domestic gas, cold storage, cinema and other amenities, it is difficult to realise that within living memory it has been the scene of human sacrifices, and that only two hours up river there are pagan tribes treasuring the grisly relics of head-hunting expeditions of not so long ago.

### *Climate*

The climate is of the tropical type and is characterised by uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall. The heat is usually tempered by a slight breeze and the temperature rarely exceeds 90°F., the usual daily range being between 76°F. and 86°F.

The annual rainfall varies from 100 inches at the coast to over 200 inches in certain parts of the interior. There are no well defined seasons, but the rainfall tends to be heaviest from October to the middle of January during the period of the North-east monsoon.

1949 was an exceptionally wet year, over 140 inches of rain having been recorded in Brunei Town. The heaviest fall was 12.3 inches in a period of 12 hours.

Local standard time is eight hours ahead of Greenwich (time meridian 120°E). As the mean longitude of the State is roughly 115°E there is a sort of natural daylight saving of about twenty minutes.

## CHAPTER II.

### HISTORY

The native name for the island Borneo has always been Pulau Kelamantan, but a Mercator's chart of 1595 gives to the town of Brunei, as well as to the whole island, the name of "Borneo". Early writers spell the name of the island variously, Bruni, Brunai, Brune, Borneo, Borney, Bornei, Borne and Burni; from these variations upon the theme of one word, two words eventually crystallised—"Brunei" and "Borneo". As recently as 100 years ago, Brunei territory was always referred to as "Borneo



Proper". The fact is that at the time of the earliest cartographers and writers, the kingdom of Brunei was at its zenith; the terms "Brunei" and "Borneo" were synonymous and the whole island was subject to the dominion of Brunei.

Brunei has no discovered pre-history and no established early history, and the meagre written records do not go further back than the first Mohammedan Sultan, contemporaneous with the introduction of the Arabic script in or about the fifteenth century. For records of the pre-Muslim era we have to turn to Hindu and Chinese chroniclers. Chinese annals of the sixth and seventh centuries contain references to a Kingdom known as Poli or Puni which sent tribute to the Emperors of China in A.D. 518, 523 and 616. Similar references to a State of that name 45 days' sail from Java occur in the annals of the Sung dynasty which ruled over South China from about 960 to 1280 A.D., and there are strong grounds for identifying it with Brunei, though the authorities are not unanimous on this point. With the decline of the Sung dynasty Brunei transferred its allegiance to Hindu Majapahit in Java, then back again to China, and finally, at the end of the fourteenth century, paid tribute to Mohammedan Malacca. With the coming of the Ming Emperors the ties with vassal States were strengthened, and tributes were sent to China several times between 1405 and 1425. Thereafter there is no record.

Brunei must soon have thrown off all allegiance for by the early years of the sixteenth century it had risen to great power, and one of its rulers, Sultan Bulkiah, or Nakhoda Ragam (the Singing Captain) a renowned sea rover, voyaged to Java and Malacca and made conquests in Borneo, the Philippines and Sulu and even seized Manila. The names of many islands scattered throughout the archipelago are alleged to commemorate the circumstances of his voyages. One legend is that he set out on a cruise with a gantang of pepper seeds and was not content to return until he had given to each seed the name of one of the myraid islands encountered. His wife was a Javanese princess whose followers inter-married with the people of Brunei, and such, according to one tradition, is the origin of the Kedayans whom custom associates with the main body guard of the Sultan and who introduced in Brunei a system of rice cultivation greatly superior to local standards. It is related that in his declining years he carried with him on his exploits a band of artisans whose duty it was to prepare royal tombs in remote parts of the archipelago, it being his wish, should he die at sea, to be buried at the nearest site; the finest of these is said to contain his remains at Kota Batu, about 1½ miles downstream from Brunei Town. This tomb of exquisite workmanship in hard basaltic stone was damaged by Spanish round shot in the seventeenth century and is now in a sorry state of dilapidation and the engravings upon it remain a secret to posterity.

This was the golden age of Brunei. Her sovereignty extended over the whole island of Borneo, the sultanates of Sambas, Pontianak, Banjarmasin, Pasir Kotei and Bolongan being her vassals, as well as over the Sulu archipelago and over the islands of Balabac, Banggi, Balambangan and Palawan.



It was probably during the life-time of Sultan Bulkiah that Pigafetta, the Italian historian of Magellan's voyage around the world, visited Brunei and wrote the first eye-witness account in which he bore evidence as to the splendour of the Court and the size of the town of Brunei, the population of which he estimated at 25,000 families.

Kublai Khan, the Mongol Conqueror, is known to have sent an expedition from China to the eastern archipelago in 1292 and it is more than probable that this was the origin of the Chinese colony in northern Borneo which is commemorated in the nomenclature of Kinabatangan river and the mountain Kinabalu and which according to tradition provided Brunei with an early ruler.

In 1291, according to Marco Polo, there was a considerable junk carried trade between Brunei and China.

In Brunei, the traditional ceremony, the royal procedure and the nomenclature of officers of state, all commemorate Hindu and Chinese influences. The Hindu influence emanated from the Empire of Majapahit in Java and according to Javanese records a Force expelled Sulu marauders from Brunei in 1368 and Brunei is mentioned as one of the countries conquered during the reign of the Angka Wijaya who was the last king to reign over Majapahit before it was vanquished by Mohammedan Malacca.

The Portuguese visited Brunei in 1526 and confirmed the glowing account of Pigafetta. Further visits were paid by the Portuguese until 1530, and a trading factory and Catholic mission were established at the beginning of the next century. Spain too, having taken possession of the Philippines, evinced an active interest in Brunei affairs and twice attacked the capital. Later the English and Dutch in turn made sporadic appearances.

Towards the end of the sixteenth century the power of Brunei began to decline, and the outlying territories gradually fell away. The Dutch, having established trading stations on the South-west, South and East of Borneo rapidly extended their sphere of influence over the semi-independent but nominally vassal sultanates. This disintegration continued until by the beginning of the nineteenth century the kingdom of Brunei had so dwindled in extent as to include only what is now Sarawak and part of North Borneo.

At this period the capital itself seems to have degenerated to the condition of a slave market for the sale of captives of Illanun and Sulu pirates. Anarchy was rife in the outlying districts, and in 1841, in return for his services in assisting the Bendahara Raja Muda Hashim, Viceroy of Sarawak, to quell an insurrection at Kuching, Sarawak Proper was ceded to Mr. James (later Sir James) Brooke, who was proclaimed Rajah of Sarawak. In 1846 the island of Labuan was ceded to Great Britain as a base for anti-piracy measures and for the watering and careening of ships, and in 1877 the whole of the northern portion of Borneo was ceded to form the nucleus of what was to become British North Borneo. At various later dates further cessions were made to the Rajah of Sarawak and to the British North Borneo



Company till the territories of the State was eventually reduced to their present circumscribed limits.

In 1847 the Sultan entered into a Treaty with Great Britain for the furtherance of commercial relations and the mutual suppression of piracy with an additional clause providing for extra-territorial jurisdiction over British subjects in Brunei, which provision was modified by an Agreement of 1856. By a further Treaty made in 1888 Brunei was placed under the protection of Great Britain, and the Sultan agreed that the foreign relations of the State should be conducted by Her Britannic Majesty's Government. Provision was also made for the setting up of Consular Courts with jurisdiction over British subjects and foreign subjects enjoying British protection. In 1906 a Supplementary Agreement was entered into whereby the Sultan undertook to accept a British Officer to be styled Resident, who should be the agent and representative of the British Government under the High Commissioner for the Malay States.\*

The years between 1906 and 1941 were years of steady progress. Very shortly after the treaty a form of Government was set up under the Sultan in Council and the British Resident, and law and order was established. Roads were built, people were encouraged to become agriculturists and fishermen according to their way of life. Conditions of housing were improved and trade flourished. The discovery of a workable oilfield at Seria only 10 miles from Kuala Belait in 1929 gave added importance to the State and its revenues increased and Brunei became prosperous.

#### *Period of Japanese Occupation.*

In the early morning of 16th December, 1941, the first wave of Japanese Forces landed at Kuala Belait and occupied the oilfields at Seria. Six days later on 22nd December, Brunei Town was occupied and all the British Government Officials were interned. Almost immediately the Japanese introduced their East Asia Co-Prosperity policy but it had a bad effect on the people's morale when public thrashing had to be attended and later the Japanese dropped that policy to a certain extent. People living near Kuala Belait were driven to work in the oilfields and the country folk were forcibly made to grow food.

Trade of course came to a standstill and only certain shopkeepers were allowed to remain as distributors. Luckily for the native population the Government in the years immediately preceding the outbreak of war had compelled traders to import large stocks of rice, the staple food, in case the European War disrupted shipping in the Far East. As a result of that policy, the population had ample food for the first year and only slightly less in the second year, but by the end of 1943 the stocks had been used up and only a trickle of food was able to enter the country owing to Japanese shipping losses. Even the Japanese themselves lacked food, but not for long. As soon as the local harvest was in, the majority of it was confiscated to feed the

---

\*The treaties and agreements relating to events described in this and the preceding paragraph were published as appendices to the Annual Report for 1946.



Japanese Forces and a serious state of starvation prevailed. Medicines were almost non-existent, malaria spread and the resistance of the population to disease was broken down.

The Japanese policy seems to have been one of neglect. No anti-malarial work was done and no maintenance to houses, roads, ditches or water transport was even contemplated.

In 1944 the Allied Air Force began to take an active interest in Brunei. There were almost daily raids somewhere in the State and later the main town areas were destroyed by bombing. All the shophouses were destroyed in Kuala Belait and Brunei and in the latter town the newly completed hospital with X-ray equipment was literally blown off the face of the earth. Luckily the famous River Kampong was spared but many houses have scars of machine gun bullets to bear witness to those frightful days. Most of the native population went into the interior to look for a piece of land to cultivate and live on until the coming of the Allied Forces.

#### *Allied Re-Occupation.*

On 10th June, 1945, the Allied Forces landed at Muara and proceeded towards Brunei which they entered easily having only encountered small patrol activity. The Japanese in the meantime were busily destroying their installations and setting fire to the oilfields at Seria. Realising that the end had come the Japanese took out all the civilians imprisoned for suspected anti-Japanese activities and executed them in their usual cowardly fashion. Their Forces then moved up country and into the interior where many of them met timely ends at the hands of the Dayaks.

Almost immediately a system of Government was set up under British control and so began the era of reconstruction under the British Military Administration. The population was found to be in a shocking state of health and it is no exaggeration to state that if the landing had not taken place when it did thousands of people would soon have perished through starvation and disease.

Free food and clothing were distributed as quickly as possible to the whole population and the sick were taken to hospital. Those Government servants who were still capable of work reported for duty and the gaps were filled by many well-known members of the various communities.

Distribution of supplies was difficult because the Japanese had allowed the roads to revert to jungle, and grass was growing on many of the roads in the town area. Water transport was scraped together from old hulls and Japanese engines were put into them. Rubble had to be cleared away in the town, bomb craters filled in and roads rehabilitated.

Temporary shophouses were built along the river bank and partly over the water from the beginning of Jalan Stoney up towards the Custom Wharf until such time as the shop area could be cleared and drained.

Gradually the health of the population improved and order was restored to something like normal. Trade began again though



very slowly and prices, other than those goods distributed from the Supply Depot, were prohibitive at first.

On 6th July, 1946, the Government of the country was formally handed over to the Civil Authorities.

### CHAPTER III.

#### ADMINISTRATION.

Brunei is a sultanate. The present Ruler, the twenty-seventh of his line, His Highness Sir Ahmed Tajudin Akhazul Khairi Wadin, K.B.E., C.M.G., ibni Sultan Mohamed Jemal-Ul-Alam was born on 2nd September, 1913, and succeeded to the throne, on the death of his father, on 20th September, 1924, at the early age of eleven. A Regency was set up under the two principal ministers, the Pengiran Bendahara and the Pengiran Pemancha, which terminated on the 19th September, 1931, when the Sultan assumed full sovereignty.

The supreme authority in the State is vested in the Sultan in Council. The State Council, which meets regularly every month, consists of twelve members, including the British Resident with the Sultan as President. The assent of the Council is required for the enactment of legislation and important questions of policy are referred to it.

The general functions of administration are carried out by a British Resident under the supervision of the Governor of Sarawak as High Commissioner. By a Treaty of 1906 the Resident's advice must be asked and acted upon in all questions other than those affecting the Mohammedan religion. The seat of Government is in Brunei Town and there are Assistant Residents at Kuala Belait and at Headquarters.

The State is divided into four administrative districts, namely Brunei and Muara, Temburong, Tutong and Belait, in each of which there are Malay District Officers who are responsible to the Resident.

European officers are generally in charge of the Public Works, Medical, Agricultural, Forests, Police, Customs and Education Departments, but at present the Agricultural Department is without a European head. The Commissioner of Customs and Marine is also State Treasurer, and the State Engineer supervises the Electrical Department.

At Brunei, Tutong and Kuala Belait there are Sanitary Boards whose members, of all nationalities, are appointed by Government. They are responsible for sanitation, conservancy, street lighting, rating and other Municipal matters within their respective areas.

Government continues to control the distribution of essential commodities such as rice, flour and sugar. For this purpose there are Supply Depots in Brunei Town and Kuala Belait, and prices are strictly controlled.



CHAPTER IV.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURERS.

Both English and native weights and measures are used. The legal standard weights and measures from which all others are ascertained are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound and the Imperial gallon.

The following are the principal local weights and measures and their English equivalents:

The chupak equal to 1 quart

The gantang equal to 1 gallon

The tahl equal to 1  $\frac{1}{3}$  oz.

The kati (16 tahils) equal to 1  $\frac{1}{3}$  lbs.

The pikul (100 katis) equal to 133  $\frac{1}{3}$  lbs.

The koyan (40 pikuls) equal to 5,333  $\frac{1}{3}$  lbs.

CHAPTER V.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

There are no newspapers or periodicals published in the State.

E. E. F. PRETTY,  
*British Resident, Brunei*

Brunei,  
February, 1950.



APPENDIX A.

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1948  
AND THE YEAR 1949

Name of Article		Unit	1948		1949	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Aerated Water	..	..	Included under	Miscellaneous		\$
Aircraft	..	Gallon	—	—	6,099	14,333
Ammunitions	..	Number	261,848	64,630	1	59,318
Beans and Peas	..	Round	1,080	30,533	40,695	2,700
Butter	..	Pikul	Included under	Provisions	1,767	44,591
Cement	..	Lb.	1,253	155,180	40,387	52,880
Cinematographic Films	..	Ton	Included under	Miscellaneous	12,619	1,160,266
Cereals and Brans	..	Reel	3,715,732	762,405	1,780	496,700
A. Rice	..	Lb.	137,732	4,640	5,634,129	1,148,407
B. Rice Bran	..	"	Included under	Miscellaneous	114,317	8,390
C. Padi	..	"	"	"	29,462	1,964
D. Other Grains	..	"	"	"	146,346	31,929
Cheese	..	"	"	Provisions	3,095	3,743
Cocoa	..	"	"	"	2,484	3,493
Coconuts	..	Number	"	Miscellaneous	88,291	9,896
Coffee	..	Lb.	224,532	100,525	194,132	123,299
A. Raw	..	"	Included under	Miscellaneous	21,515	17,674
B. Ground	..	Number	"	"	1,910	39,827
Clock and Watches	..	—	—	42,369	155,787	155,787
Confectionery	..	—	Included under	Miscellaneous	51,348	51,348
Cosmetics	..	—	Included under	Miscellaneous	638,092	638,092
Drugs and Chemicals	..	—	—	32,362	333,714	333,714
Earthenware	..	—	Included under	Provisions	58,702	58,702
Edible Oil	..	Lb.	34,056	24,633	111,833	64,479
A. Lard	..	"	130,152	71,713	145,450	76,531
B. Groundnut Oil	..	"	Included under	Provisions	285	184
C. Coconut Oil	..	"	"	"	1,977	1,926
D. Lango Oil	..	"	Included under	Miscellaneous	61,904	5,532
E. Ghee	..	Number	—	836,630	358	749,177
Eggs, fresh and salted	..	—	162	6,188		16,938
Electrical Equipment and Wireless Apparatus	..	Piece				
Firearms	..					



TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1948 AND THE YEAR 1949

Name of Article		Unit	1948		1949	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Fireworks and Crackers	..	—		\$ 1,093	—	\$ 2,538
Fish	A. Fresh ..	Pikul	—	—	2	55
	B. Salted/Dried ..	"	1,068	38,692	1,749	55,109
Flour	..	Lb.	1,188,150	200,983	1,021,995	206,934
Forest Produce	A. Timber & Planks ..	Ton	18,809	182,062	4,221	392,550
	B. Nibong ..	Piece			35,975	4,708
	C. Shingles ..	"		158	5,183,640	109,768
	D. Nipah Attap ..	"			493,666	19,349
	E. Other Kinds ..	—				7,161
Furniture	..	Piece	Unrecorded	108,032	3,737	62,629
Glassware	..	—	Included under Miscellaneous			72,726
Ham and Bacon	..	Lb.	Included under Provisions		10,927	14,282
Intoxicating Liquors	A. Brandy ..	Gallon			1,396	39,051
	B. Whisky ..	"			1,733	34,101
	C. Gin ..	"		80,675	532	6,175
	D. Liqueurs ..	"			179	6,500
	E. Wine ..	"			1,463	23,651
	F. Beer & Stout ..	"	43,916	186,450	62,134	213,830
	G. Arrack & Samsu ..	"	290	4,140	160	3,733
Ironware	..	—		7,506,015		9,463,044
Livestock	A. Poultry ..	Head	—	611	1,614	2,336
	B. Swine ..	"	407	108,228	2,790	199,182
	C. Buffaloes/Cattle ..	"	1,405	4,844	177	26,910
	B. Sheep/Goats ..	"	30	—	15	219
	E. Other Kinds ..	"	—	—	38	6,608
Marcoroni and Vermicelly	..	—	Included under Provisions			24,806
Machinery	..	—		13,280,265		6,719,621
Matches	..	Box	1,180,800	39,479	2,136,512	36,384
Milk	..	Lb.	342,132	230,578	381,068	212,491



TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1948  
AND THE YEAR 1949

Name of Article	Unit	1948		1949	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Miscellaneous Articles	—	—	\$ 4,936,119		\$ 2,152,903
Musical Instruments	—	—	11,236		22,379
Paint, Varnish and Tar	—		Included under Miscellaneous		492,699
Perfumery	—		Included under Cosmetics		10,058
Petroleum & Products	Gallon		Included under Fuel & Oil	153,192	129,622
A. Kerosene	"				646,841
B. Petrol	"	515,298	213,741	792,902	260,619
C. Lubricating Oil	"	119,940	237,791	147,259	10,968
D. Fuel Oil	"	Included under Fuel & Oil		20,720	420,938
E. Diesel Oil	"		507,355	647,799	2,217
F. Methylated Spirit	"			1,098	30,079
G. Grease	Lb.	61,975	19,423	89,099	3,466
Photographic Materials	Number	Unrecorded	13,700	76	62,572
A. Camera		Included under Camera			275,604
B. Parts & Accessories	—				24,563
Provisions	—				24,559
A. Canned	—				43,811
B. Spices	—				7,143
C. Sauce & Vinegar	—				454,236
D. Onions	—		1,168,065		4,482
E. Tamarind	—				9,392
F. Other Provisions	—				5,734
Sago, Pearl or Raw	—				43,536
Salt	Lb.				69,123
A. Coarse	"	Included under Provisions			313,482
B. Fine	"	218,400	10,611	211,037	52,714
Soap	—				626,670
A. Toilet	Case	5,137	52,728	3,964	3,771
B. Washing	—	Included under Miscellaneous			44,004
Stationery and Books	Number	—			
Steam and Motor Launches	Lb.	2,197,862	427,739	2,900,440	
Sugar	"			35,026	
A. White and Brown	Lb.	25,874	34,520	27,782	
B. Nipah					
Tea					



TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1948

			1948		1949	
Name of Article	Unit		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Telephone Materials and Apparatus ..	—		Included under Miscellaneous	\$		\$
Textile and Wearing Apparel:	—					
A. Cloth ..	Yard			985,245	878,464	602,095
B. Clothings ..	—					190,358
C. Sarongs ..	Piece		36,165	88,883	60,821	166,588
D. Boots, Shoes, etc. ..	Pair		Included under Miscellaneous		70,245	112,452
E. Other Kinds ..	—					265,143
Tobacco						42,367
A. European ..	Lb.				6,332	10
B. Chinese ..	"				5	5,137
C. Native ..	"		3,320	32,149	3,296	1,648
D. Cigar ..	"				133	797,800
E. Cigarettes ..	"		126,594	651,310	162,487	119,133
Treasure			—	25,800		59,897
A. Gold and Goldware ..	—		—	705		6,850
B. Silver and Silverware ..	—		Statistics not available			—
C. Coins ..	—		"			61,898
D. Notes ..	—		"			—
Vehicles						
A. Cycles ..	Number				947	—
B. Autocycles ..	"				—	58,444
C. Motor Cycles ..	"				43	559,261
D. Motor Cars ..	"				136	820,654
E. Motor Lorries ..	"				113	310,341
F. Tractors ..	"		193	1,686,072	30	173,404
G. Trailers ..	"				36	439,872
H. Caterpillars ..	"				9	31,156
I. Bulldozers ..	"				3	150,664
J. Tyres and Tubes ..	Piece		Statistics not available		5,117	714,121
K. Parts and Accessories ..	—		"			127,472
Wire ..	—					362,363
Zinc and Zincware ..	—					
Total:				35,207,305		35,835,170

N.B. (i) Value of re-exports included above =  
(ii) \$1 = 2s. 4d.

1948 1949 \$240,410



APPENDIX B.

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1948  
AND THE YEAR 1949

Name of Article	Unit	1 9 4 8		1 9 4 9	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Crude Oil .. ..	Ton	2,641,516	\$ 47,140,683	3,200,440	\$ 60,131,144
Firewood, Mangrove ..	Ton	3,804	39,081	14,727	179,780
Jelutong Rubber ..	Ton	148	157,516	111	115,134
Natural Gas .. ..	1,000 Cubic ft.	1,260,126	320,795	1,663,516	415,904
Plantation Rubber ..	Lb.	4,563,147	1,594,635	3,669,393	1,220,892
			\$49,252,710		
			\$62,062,791		



## APPENDIX C.

## ABSTRACT OF REVENUE.

	Actual Revenue 1948	Actual Revenue 1949
	\$	\$
CLASS I.		
<i>Duties, Taxes and Licences</i>		
Customs .. ..	1,381,192	2,092,561
Licences and Excise ..	96,926	129,874
Municipal .. ..	33,903	40,136
CLASS II.		
<i>Fees of Court and Office etc.</i>		
Courts .. ..	9,695	7,744
Land .. ..	—	1,096
Surveys .. ..	1,945	3,548
General .. ..	90,321	113,459
CLASS III.		
<i>Government Undertakings</i>		
Posts and Telegraphs ..	289,925	295,611
Electrical .. ..	7,051	14,084
CLASS IV.		
<i>Revenue from Government Property</i>		
Land Revenue (includes oil Royalties) .. ..	4,381,752	5,769,344
Cession monies .. ..	133,693	350
Interest .. ..	118,582	224,985
Currency Profits .. ..	39,186	39,727
CLASS V.		
<i>Land Sales</i>		
Premia and Land Sales ..	2,128	3,629
Total	<u>\$6,586,299</u>	<u>\$8,736,148</u>



## APPENDIX D.

## ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURE.

	Actual Expenditure 1948	Actual Expenditure 1949
Pensions, Retired Allowances	48,271	44,334
His Highness the Sultan ..	56,594	60,350
Ministers .. ..	25,360	31,500
British Resident .. ..	36,735	37,313
Assistant Resident .. ..	19,689	19,400
Agriculture .. ..	118,475	116,599
Audit .. ..	9,554	9,390
Court .. ..	8,656	11,233
Customs and Marine .. ..	125,305	126,370
Education .. ..	113,329	144,178
Electrical .. ..	60,889	64,490
Fisheries .. ..	—	81,160
Forests .. ..	28,040	28,362
Land & District Offices ..	129,944	129,978
Medical & Health .. ..	137,686	233,905
Miscellaneous Services ..	1,584,136	1,186,481
Municipal .. ..	96,392	76,356
Police and Prisons .. ..	122,841	144,890
Posts & Telegraphs .. ..	149,889	171,042
Religious Affairs .. ..	6,594	13,863
Treasury .. ..	13,303	14,200
Public Works Department ..	50,840	53,966
Public Works, Annually Recurrent	211,878	219,456
Public Works, Extraordinary	585,854	1,209,673
Total	<u>\$3,740,254</u>	<u>\$4,228,489</u>



# APPENDIX E.

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1949

L I A B I L I T I E S		A S S E T S	
Supply Depot	.. .. .	Cash in Treasury	.. .. . 3,984.58
		Cash in Bank	.. .. . 1,984,168.35
			1,988,152.93
Deposit	.. .. .	Crown Agents Current Account	.. .. . 737.57
		Joint Colonial Fund	.. .. . 814,828.71
General Reserve Fund	.. .. .	Investment: General Reserve	.. .. .
		(Sterling Securities)	.. .. . 6,320,808.29
		(Dollar Securities)	.. .. . 971,776.75
			7,292,585.04
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	291,571.31	Investment: Opium Revenue	
		Replacement Reserve Fund	
		(Sterling Securities)	.. .. . 291,571.31
General Revenue Balance on 31.12.48	5,032,820.76	Investment: Surplus Balance	
Add Excess Receipts over Expenditure	4,512,154.74	(Sterling Securities)	.. .. . 2,289,495.01
		Drafts and Remittance	.. .. . 55,000.00
Less Transfer to General Reserve Fund	.. 4,262,303.57	Suspense:	
Less Depreciation on Investments	.. 184,858.16	Displaced Javanese	.. .. . 13,118.91
		British Postal Orders	.. .. . 5,909.80
		P.W.D. Unallocated stores and benzine etc.	.. .. . 247,865.60
		Advance	.. .. .
		Loan	.. .. .
			266,894.31
			9,696.68
			22,185.64
			\$13,030,604.20

## APPENDIX F.

## BRUNEI

BRITISH RESIDENTS	ASSISTANT RESIDENTS
1906/May 1907—M. S. H. McArthur	May 1906/May 1907—F. A. S. McClelland
May 1907/Dec. 1907—H. Chevallier	—
Jan. 1908/Apr. 1908—M. S. H. McArthur	May 1907/June 1908—J. C. Sugars
Apr. 1908/Sept. 1909—J. F. Owen	June 1908/Feb. 1910—B. O. Stoney
Sept. 1909/Nov. 1909—B. O. Stoney (Acting)	Mar. 1910/May 1911—W. H. Lee-Warner
Nov. 1909/Nov. 1913—H. Chevallier	May 1911/Jan. 1913—E. A. Dickson
Nov. 1913/Dec. 1914—F. W. Douglas	Jan. 1913/1914 —W. H. Lee-Warner
Jan. 1915/May 1916—E. B. Maundrell	1914/1930 —Abolished
May 1916/Mar. 1921—G. E. Cator	Jan. 1931/Sept. 1931—T. F. Carey
Mar. 1921/Mar. 1923—L. A. Allen	Oct. 1931/Sept. 1933—R. C. Gates
Mar. 1923/Feb. 1926—E. E. F. Pretty	Aug. 1933/Apr. 1935—A. Glencross
Mar. 1926/Mar. 1927—O. E. Venables	Apr. 1935/Mar. 1936—D. A. Somerville
Mar. 1927/May 1928—E. E. F. Pretty	Mar. 1936/May 1938—H. Hughes-Hallett
May 1928/Jan. 1929—P. A. B. McKerron	May 1938/Apr. 1940—E. C. G. Barrett
Jan. 1929/Aug. 1929—R. J. F. Curtis	May 1940/Dec. 1941—R. N. Turner
Aug. 1929/Sept. 1931—P. A. B. McKerron	July 1946/Jan. 1947—C. J. Briscoe
Sept. 1931/Oct. 1934—T. F. Carey	Jan. 1947/Dec. 1947—M. H. Wood
Nov. 1934/Jan. 1937—R. E. Turnbull	Dec. 1947/Mar. 1949—D. C. I. Wernham
Jan. 1937/Dec. 1939—J. Graham Black	Mar. 1949/Oct. 1949—I. Harper
Jan. 1940/Dec. 1941—E. E. Pengilley	Oct. 1949/ —R. C. S. Bell
July 1946/Jan. 1948—W. J. Peel	
Jan. 1948/Aug. 1948—L. H. N. Davis	
Aug. 1948/ —E. E. F. Pretty	

NOTE:—The appointment of Assistant Resident was abolished in 1915 and was not recreated until 1931 consequent upon the development of the Seria Oilfields, Belait.

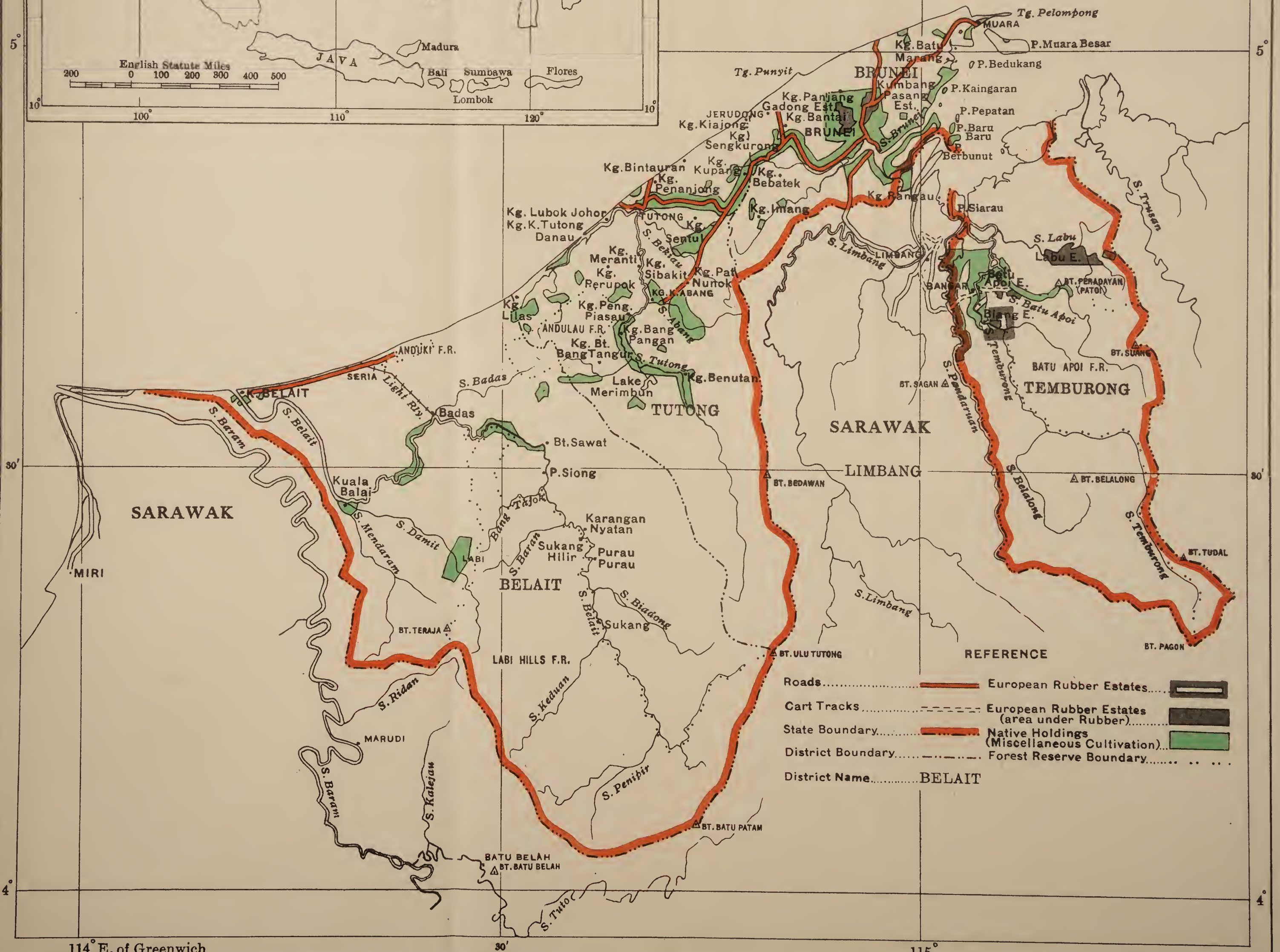






# REPORT MAP OF THE STATE OF BRUNEI 1949

Scale 12 Miles to 1 Inch



- Roads ..... European Rubber Estates .....  
 Cart Tracks ..... European Rubber Estates (area under Rubber) .....  
 State Boundary ..... Native Holdings (Miscellaneous Cultivation) .....  
 District Boundary ..... Forest Reserve Boundary .....  
 District Name ..... BELAIT











# COLONIAL REPORTS

## ANNUAL REPORTS

BASUTOLAND	GOLD COAST	NTHN. RHODESIA
BECHUANALAND	HONG KONG	NYASALAND
PROTECTORATE	JAMAICA	SARAWAK
BRITISH GUIANA	KENYA	SIERRA LEONE
BR. HONDURAS	MAURITIUS	SINGAPORE
BRUNEI	FED. OF MALAYA	SWAZILAND
CYPRUS	NIGERIA	TRINIDAD
FIJI	NORTH BORNEO	UGANDA

## BIENNIAL REPORTS

ADEN	*GIBRALTAR	*ST. VINCENT
*BAHAMAS	*GILBERT AND	SEYCHELLES
*BARBADOS	ELLICE IS.	SOLOMON IS.
BERMUDA	*GRENADA	*SOMALILAND
CAYMAN IS.	LEEWARD IS.	*TONGA
DOMINICA	NEW HEBRIDES	TURKS AND
*FALKLAND IS.	*ST. HELENA	CAICOS IS.
*GAMBIA	ST. LUCIA	ZANZIBAR

\* These territories will produce a Report for 1949 and the remainder for 1949-50.

A standing order for selected Reports or for the complete series will be accepted by any one of the Sales Offices of H.M. Stationery Office at the following addresses: † York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; † 429 Oxford Street, London, W.1; 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh, 2; 39 King Street, Manchester, 2; 2 Edmund Street, Birmingham, 3; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; Tower Lane, Bristol, 1; 80 Chichester Street, Belfast.

A deposit of £4 (four pounds) should accompany standing orders for the complete series.

† Post Orders for these Sales Offices should be sent to P.O. Box 569, London, S.E.1.

ORDERS MAY ALSO BE PLACED THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER



